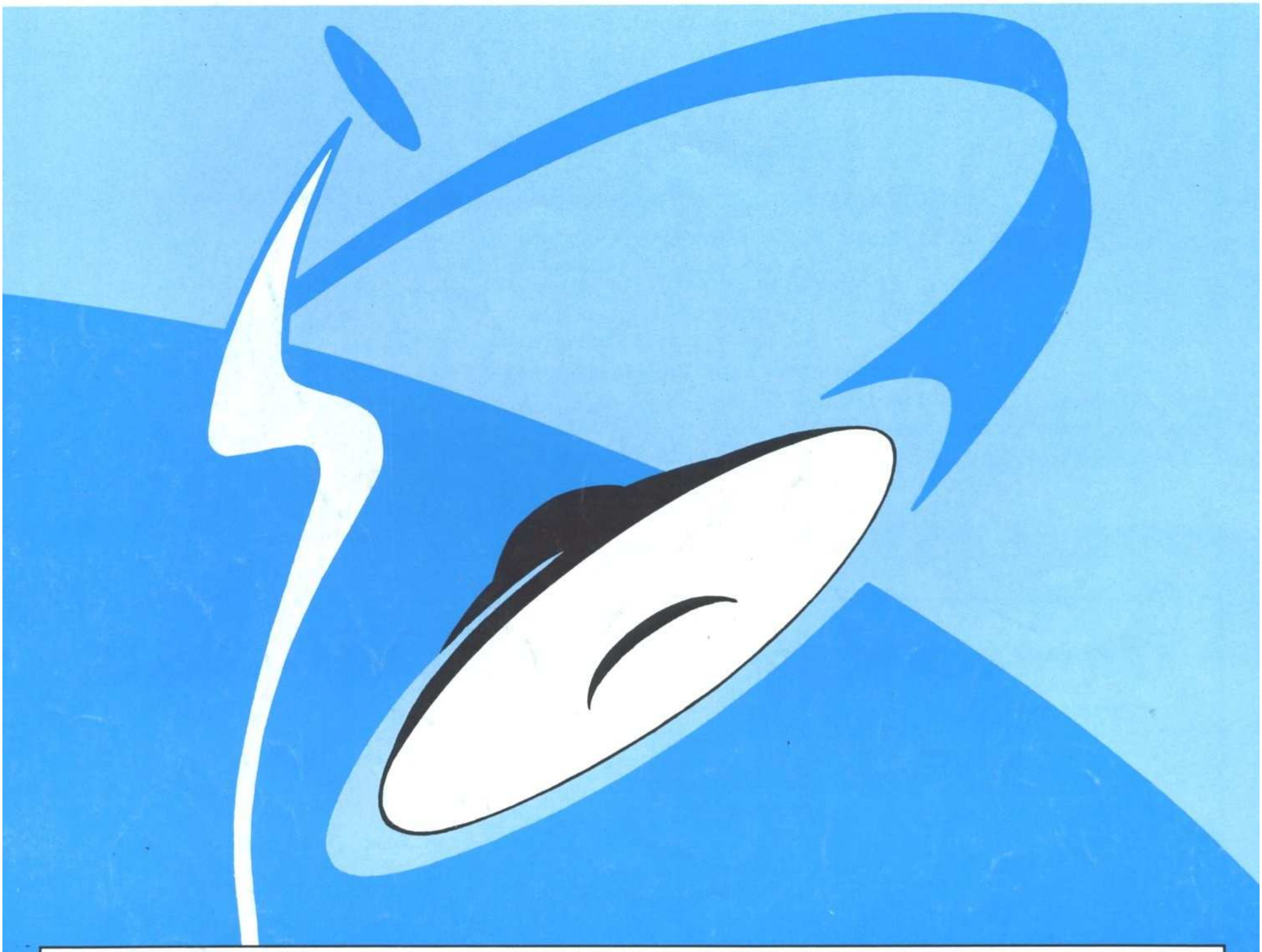
FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

VOL. 33, NO. 2
(JUNE QUARTER, 1988)



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FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

The international journal of cosmology and eschatology, and for the discussion of reports of unidentified flying objects and their alien occupants.

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ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION (QUARTERLY), i.e. four issues per year:–
UNITED KINGDOM: £12.00 (single copies £3.50)
ALL OTHER COUNTRIES: £15.00 OR US $30.00 (single copies £4.50 or $8.00)
(US dollars payable in New York)
All prices include postage by surface mail

Overseas airmail extra: (for all countries) £6.00 or $US10.00.

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All mail, editorial matter and subscriptions should be addressed to **The Editor, FSR Publications Ltd, PO Box 12, Snodland, Kent ME6 5JZ, England**

Artwork: Eve and contributors

ABOVE TOP SECRET:
THE WORLD-WIDE UFO COVER-UP

by
TIMOTHY GOOD

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LORD HILL-NORTON, GCB.,
Chief of British Defence Staff,
1971–73

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by Arrow Books, London
1987, £3.50.

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FLYING SAUCER REVIEW
fsr
ESTABLISHED 1955

Vol. 33, No. 2
(June 1988)

FREEDOM TO THINK AND SPEAK

For some years past we have published articles and comments about the on-going phenomenon of the "Rings in the Cornfields", and we shall continue to do so, giving our latest findings as we see them. Other folk may have other opinions. We have ours. And if and when we find that we are wrong, we shall say so and we shall change them. (Or are we all maybe already inside the USSR without knowing it?)

In its Number 234 (October 1987), MUFON UFO JOURNAL carried a letter which was unsigned (maybe intentionally?) but bore the vituperative hallmark of J. Randles.

On November 19, 1987, our Consultant Ann Druffel of Pasadena, a most respected investigator and writer on our subject for many years past (and also, incidentally, herself a Contributing Editor to MUFON UFO JOURNAL), wrote a letter to its Editor in our defence.

The Editor of MUFON UFO JOURNAL has not seen fit to publish Mrs Druffel's letter. So, with her consent, and in order to assist MUFON, we are now giving, (page 18), on their behalf, a photostatic copy of the letter which Mrs Druffel has sent to us.

The affair does not tell us anything about J. Randles, because we know enough about him already. On the other hand, it may tell us a thing or two about MUFON UFO JOURNAL.

THE NIGHTMARE OF THE KNOWLES FAMILY ON THE NULLARBOR PLAIN, AUSTRALIA, AND OTHER RECENT CASES

We have received a mass of material from many quarters (our thanks to all of them) about this extraordinary case, and we have boiled it down and, hopefully, extracted all the essential features.

We kick off with a fine detailed account by our British Consultant Pat Delgado, whom we asked specially to do the job since he actually knows the region of Australia in question, having worked near there for some years at the famous Woomera Rocket Testing Installation.

We then follow up with some splendidly pungent and characteristic comments about the "Professors of the Impossible" from another equally valued Consultant and old friend, the Australian-American Paul Norman, Vice-President of the Victorian UFO Research Society (VUFORS) and an illustrious and veteran investigator, as published in the March 1988 issue of their journal, the *Australia UFO Bulletin.* (Inevitably Mr Delgado's contribution contains more detail than Mr Norman's, because the latter's piece was written much earlier, and had come to us by surface-mail.) — EDITOR

I. THE NULLARBOR ENCOUNTER

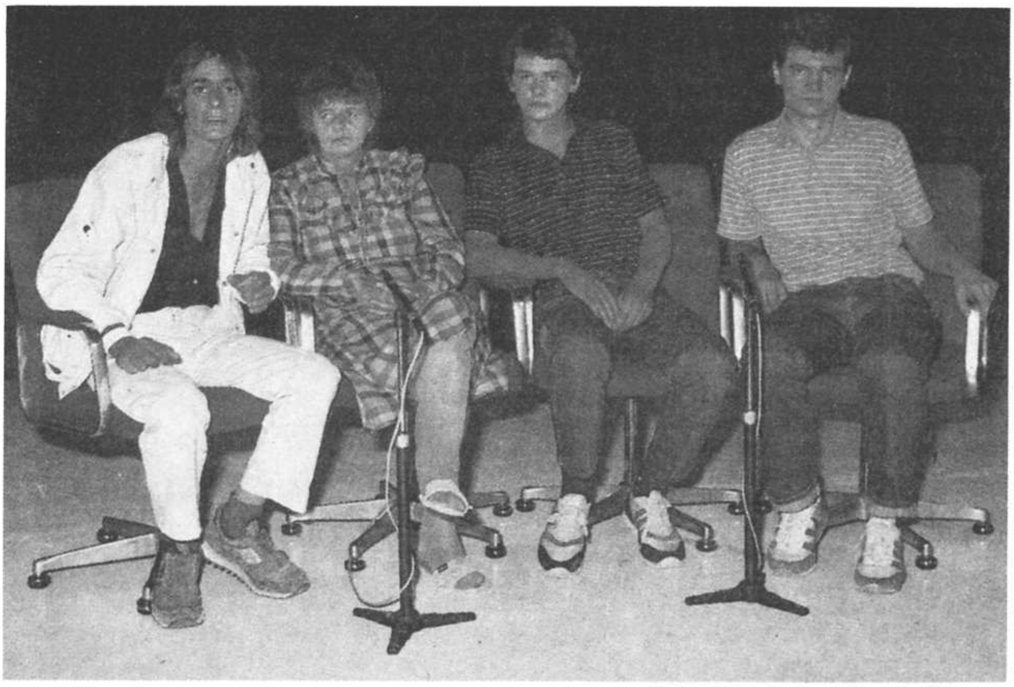
© Pat Delgado, FSR Consultant

The incident occurred on a stretch of the main bituminised highway between Perth and Adelaide in the south of Australia. The actual locality, Mundrabilla, is in what is known as The Basin, and is between the small settlements of Madura and Eucla, Western Australia, on the Nullarbor Plain. It is an isolated stretch of road with the Great Australian Bight (Bay) to the south, and a range of hills to the north.

The persons involved were Mrs. Knowles, 43, and her sons Sean, 21, Patrick, 24, and Wayne, 18. They were travelling eastwards by car, a late model Ford Telstar saloon, from Perth, Western Australia, to Melbourne, Victoria, for a surprise visit to Mrs. Knowles' family in Melbourne. Sean was driving at the time of the incident which was very early in the morning of January 20th 1988.

While travelling along the road they had to swerve to miss a huge bright glowing object on the road. They described it to reporters and police as bright and white with a yellow centre, shaped like an egg in an egg-cup and about a metre wide. It appeared on the road in front of them and was high enough to block their view. Sean said, "It was glowing so bright, we swerved to miss it and nearly hit a car and caravan coming the other way. It was a weird looking thing and we stopped the car to go back and have a look at it." He said the family became frightened after walking towards the object and ran back to the car to get away. "It chased us and at one stage when we were trying to get away, we were doing up to 200 kms./h," he said. They slowed down sufficiently to do a 'U' turn and went back the way they had come. After some distance they again did a 'U' turn and continued in the original direction. It was not established if this was an attempt to elude or follow the light. They also watched the glowing object chase a truck and a car travelling in the opposite direction. It then turned and caught them up.

"The object landed on the roof and lifted the car from the road," Sean said. His mother had wound down the rear window where she was sitting and felt the top of the car and touched the object. She told him it felt like a rubber suction pad. Suitcases which were tied to a pack-rack on the roof had vanished. "We had a real weird feeling that this thing had control of us," he said.



The Knowles family at the Channel 7 studios in Adelaide the day after their ordeal. From left: Patrick, Faye, Sean and Wayne.

"While the window was down," Mrs. Knowles said, "The car became covered in a black ash-like substance and it came into the car like smoke. We thought we were going to die. We were going silly. Something was going into our heads. We didn't know what it was — it felt like we were dying."

Patrick said, "Something seemed to be on top of us. We looked round but it didn't seem to be there. It seemed to kind of grab the car. The car began to smoke more or less. It felt like something was on the car."

"I couldn't really explain it," he went on. "The dogs in the car started going crazy. I wound up the windows and the car began to smoke up inside. It smelt like dead bodies or something."

The car was dropped back so heavily on the road that a tyre burst. The family scrambled out of the car and hid in the bush (scrubland) for about 30 minutes, after which time the object had left the area.

They returned to the car, changed the tyre and drove on to the Mundrabilla Motor Hotel, a distance of about 40 kms.

It was here that a truck driver, Mr. Graham Henley, 57, was the first person to speak to the Knowles family. He had also driven from Perth and passed through The Basin about 10 to 15 kms. in front of the Knowles' car. He said he had seen in his rear vision mirror a bright white light hovering above the car's headlights.

"It was hovering above The Basin on the sweeping stretch of road, just flickering in and out between the trees," he said. "I had only just been talking to a friend, 'Porky', on the radio, but once I saw that light it all went dead."

'Porky', another truck driver, was travelling behind the Knowles' car and had come along when the Knowles were hiding in the scrub. He said he did not stop as they ran out to hail him. It is the policy of truck drivers to ignore people doing so because of the dangers of stopping for strangers in the Outback.

Mr. Henley said he met the family when they arrived at the Road House. They were in a state of shock and their dogs were cowering on the front seat of the car.

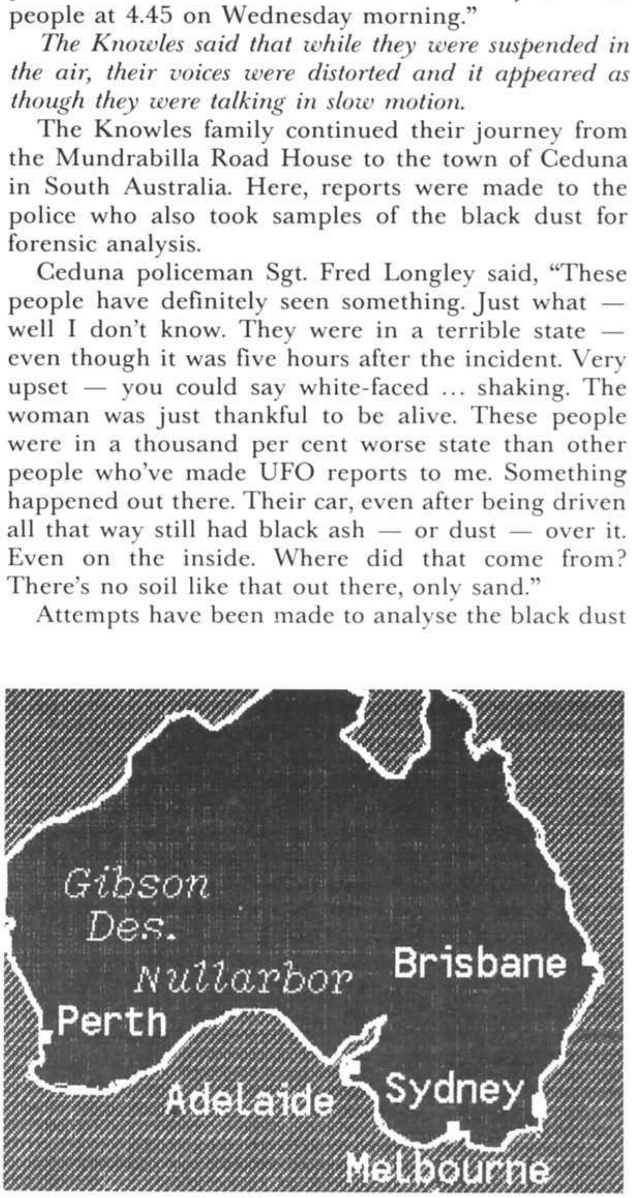
He said, "The whole car smelt like bakelite or just as if you had blown a fuse. A soot was all over the car and there were four dents in the roof, as though the car had been picked up by a magnet." Mr. Henley also said he had checked the tread of the burst tyre and the underneath the car, but there was nothing to indicate it had swerved off the road. He stated, "I cannot explain it but all I know is that I saw four very terrified people at 4.45 on Wednesday morning."

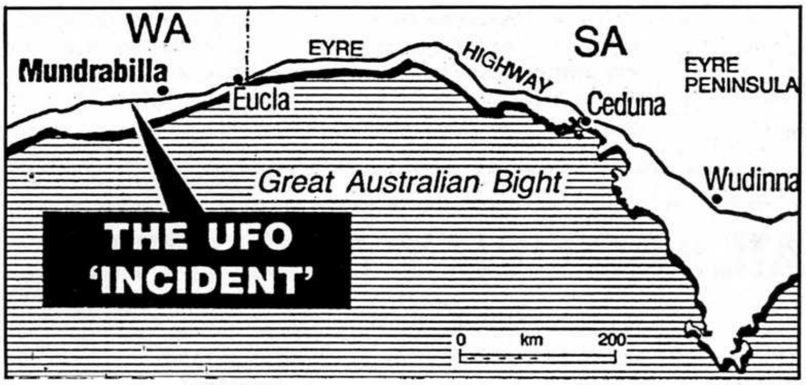
The Knowles said that while they were suspended in the air, their voices were distorted and it appeared as though they were talking in slow motion.

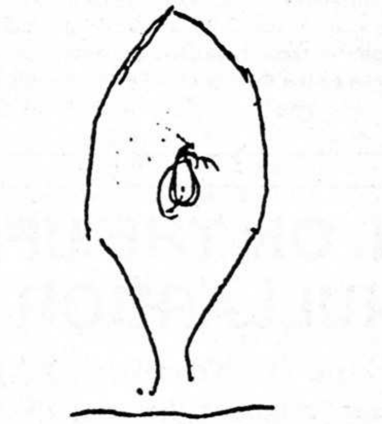
The Knowles family continued their journey from the Mundrabilla Road House to the town of Ceduna in South Australia. Here, reports were made to the police who also took samples of the black dust for forensic analysis.

Ceduna policeman Sgt. Fred Longley said, "These people have definitely seen something. Just what — well I don't know. They were in a terrible state — even though it was five hours after the incident. Very upset — you could say white-faced ... shaking. The woman was just thankful to be alive. These people were in a thousand per cent worse state than other people who've made UFO reports to me. Something happened out there. Their car, even after being driven all that way still had black ash — or dust — over it. Even on the inside. Where did that come from? There's no soil like that out there, only sand."

Attempts have been made to analyse the black dust







The Knowles sketch of the Nullarbor object.

in laboratories in both Western Australia and South Australia but apparently without success.

The story broke to Ray Brooke of UFO Research, South Australia, during that afternoon. The Ceduna police had phoned him while the family were present at the station. Arrangements were made for the family to proceed to Adelaide where they would be interviewed and arrangements made to inspect the vehicle, documenting the physical evidence. Ceduna police confirmed to Ray Brooke that they had secured statements and a sample of the black deposit.

Unfortunately, the story leaked to the media, and the family were intercepted en route and concluded a deal with the *Channel 7* television network of Melbourne. It appeared at this stage that 'cheque book' journalism had scored over scientific evaluation.

Ray Brooke managed to meet the family at *Channel 7* studios between extensive interviews and got confirmation of the story as related above. He said the family was distressed and tired at this stage. They appeared to him to be down-to-earth people trying to cope with some traumatic episode, and that indications of a hoax were minimal.

Ray Brooke was able to confirm there were four shallow indentations on the car roof and there was no luggage-rack. The black deposits had either been cleaned off or they had dissipated by the time he was allowed to examine the car.

Shortly after the time of the Knowles' encounter, the crew of a Port Lincoln tuna-boat said they were 'buzzed' by a UFO. The crew of the *Empress Star* reported their sighting to a spotter plane. Their position was about 80 kms. off the coast opposite The Basin. A crew member was on deck when a bright light approached the boat. He alerted the six other crew members and all saw the light which hovered above their craft before moving off.

During the encounter the crewmen's voices were reported to have been 'slowed and distorted'.

A third incident was reported by Mr. Pat Gildea of the Victorian (Australia) UFO Research Society. He revealed details given by a Launceston (Tasmania) business man of a sighting occurring on 14th December 1987 which only came to light after the Nullarbor incident.

The prominent business man, who prefers not to be identified, said he saw a coloured egg-shaped object while driving his white Mercedes car on a deserted country road about 10.30 p.m. He thought the 'bright light' hovering above him was only a helicopter but as he drove on he noticed the light appeared to be following him. The light landed on the road in front of him. He stopped the car and put on the handbrake but the engine stopped and the lights went out. He panicked and ran back down the road but then stopped to look back. *He noticed his car was being dragged towards the light.* All he could make out of it was an oval shaped object.

Another man arrived at the scene just in time to see the object take off at an angle and 'disappear into the night sky'.

When the owner returned to his Mercedes, it was covered in a sooty type of carbon. The car's electrical system had also been damaged. The tar on the road had melted where the light had landed and skid marks were left on the road where the car had been dragged.

Mr. Gildea said the Launceston man was amazed when the Knowles experience was described to him. "It sounds exactly like the same object," he said. Before his encounter he did not think UFOs existed.

The Officer-in-charge of Ceduna police station said, "The second incident was a short time after the first, so there is no way the crew of the boat could have heard about it. From their description of the object and what took place when it was near them, it appears it was the same object. With three independent reports, there is no doubt there was something out there."

These three apparently closely related incidents must rank among the most astounding reports ever made. Certainly the speech distortion must warrant some consideration of a time-warp and the elongation of real time. Hopefully, more details of these cases will filter through and maybe we will also learn of further analyses results of the black dust.

The latest information on these cases is that there is now a complete and total clampdown on the incidents and everything about them, including the progress in the analysis of the black substance.

Attempts are being made to locate the driver of the car and caravan which the Knowles family almost hit when they swerved to avoid the object.

Credits to Ray Brooke and Leo Andrews, both of South Australia, for supplying detailed reports and a great number of news-cuttings.

NOTE BY EDITOR

Starting with the famous presumed teleportation case of the Spanish soldier who, on October 25, 1593, was whisked up from Manila Bay (Philipine Islands) and, in the twinkling of an eye, deposited on the principal square of Mexico City (FSR Vol. II, No. 2, (March/April 1965) we have by now probably published a total of about ten or a dozen long-distance teleportation cases; nearly all from South America and one from China. But in addition we have given two cases, and both quite recently, in which cars were picked up *and the operation somehow went wrong,* and they came crashing to the ground. These were the case of the American lady Catherine Burk on October 15, 1983 (see Mr. T. Scott Crain

Jr.'s account, *"UFO Lifts Woman's Car"*, in FSR 29/6), and the case of the French Naval Arsenal technician who was similarly lifted near Toulon one night in 1971 and let fall again with a mighty crash on to the highway (see Jean-Louis Forest's article *"A Brutal 'Touch-Down'"*, in FSR 32/3). Were we to hazard a guess, we might suggest that these two cases, plus the recent one on the Nullarbor Desert, were all examples of either planned long-distance teleportations, or at any rate, abductions, which went awry. — G.C.

II. ON THE UFO TRAIL: ACTIVITY OVER THE NULLARBOR

Paul B. Norman, FSR Consultant
Vice-President, Victorian UFO Research Society

By now, most members and subscribers will have noted the press reports, telecasts and radio talk-back programs concerning UFO activity over the Nullarbor. This is the type of mysterious event which makes ufologists out of sceptics and clowns out of pseudo-scientists and academics.

"Explanations"

Already, we have at least five "explanations", following in rapid succession from the scientific community before investigations were even begun. Meanwhile, the UFO phenomenon continues to grind the sacred cow of orthodox science into hamburger.

One of the first "explanations" came from a Professor of Impossibility, PhD ETC ETC ETC, as being consistent with *a meteorite,* in spite of the fact that the object landed on top of a motor car before flying away a while later.

Following this attempt another "solution" was put forward by a second gentleman of learning that, "the description of the event was consistent with *"dry lightning"*, even though other motorists were driving along the road and viewed the manoeuvring object.

After that amusing interpretation, another spokesman came forward with the "solution". *"They were fooled by the rising sun".* Even though it did fly away in another direction. And even if motorists travelling in the opposite direction observed the manoeuvring object.

Another expert suggested it must have originated at the Woomera Test Range. That statement was followed by another spokesman who said this was not true because it would not be "allowed"". In the opinion of this humble ufologist *of course not* — unless it was out of control. But, even so, how could it strike or lift a motor car, and drop it to the ground with only minor damage?

Many previous Nullarbor cases

The Nullarbor vicinity is famous within the UFO research community for sightings and encounters with unidentified flying and hovering objects. One outstanding account came from an airline pilot who reported an unknown flying object at the same time and location where a motorist was filming the UFO from the ground. Many UFOs are sighted or encountered and never reported until years later because the observers fear ridicule.

Sagan and S.E.T.I.

A world-wide scientific group is in operation which is searching for extra-terrestrials "out there". The system was founded by Dr. Carl Sagan. But Dr. Sagan appears to have the attitude that he will not recognize such existence unless he is first contacted by the life forms through his radio telescopes. Like Frank Sinatra, who sings that he will do it his way, this radio astronomer will not recognize them unless they do it *his* way and secure his permission to land. The facts are that the extra-terrestrials may insist on doing it *their* way, while radio astronomers ignore the activity taking place below their "dishes!"

"Little Green Men"

Yes, we have proof of little green men. They are humans who are so green in fact that they don't realize that something which they do not understand is already happening. These little green men are numbered among the journalists, who write about everything, and are experts on nothing, except misquotations and out-of-context reporting. These little green men are those who insist that they are the cream of human intelligence and know everything, well, almost everything. In short, they say there are no such things as unidentified flying objects.

In all walks of life one can find the little green men, all over the world, who want to remain green. Perhaps because of a subconscious fear of the unknown. Meanwhile, as this article goes to press, the object that was over the Nullabor has not been satisfactorily identified.

III. — AND YET ANOTHER REPORT FROM WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Gordon Creighton

Our reader and most helpful correspondent in Western Australia, Mrs. June Hill of Cannington, recently wrote to say that on the whole the year 1987 seems to have been one of the quietest periods in that part of the world for a very long time — so much so indeed that local interest in "our subject" had begun to fade away, and the UFO investigation group had more or less disbanded. Then, however, on January 20

this year, came the extraordinary Knowles case, in which, if we are to believe all the experts, either (1) a meteorite, or (2) ball-lightning or (3) the rising Sun, or (4) a *"dry electrical storm"*, displayed an inordinate interest in the travellers' baggage and thoughtfully made off with not only their luggage-rack from the top of the car but also all their bags and valises. (Is this, maybe, how Aliens equip themselves with the necessary raiment when planning to appear *in mufti* among us? "CALLING ALL COSMIC TRANSVESTITES").

As the following report (sent to us by Mrs June Hill) shows, there was however, after all, at least one weird series of happenings in the West Australian "Outback" in May of 1987:–

From the newspaper "SUNDAY TIMES" (PERTH, W. AUSTRALIA) January 18, 1988:– (Reporter Gail Williams).

Mysterious Lights Stole his Power!

"Strange things happen when you're minding an oil-rig in the middle of nowhere.

Just ask Mr Doug Hodgekiss, who received some extraterrestrial visitors during a six-month stint at Patience, near the eastern edge of the Gibson Desert.

Doug, a retired clerk, took up a position minding an oil-rig last year, so as to experience the peace of mind that solitude in the desert brings.

Patience — little more than a well in the ground somewhere between Lake Disappointment and the South Australian border — provided the remote paradise he was seeking.

"Desert Doug" — as his friends named him — experienced a lot more.

Stumbling across saucer-shaped burns in the scrub near his hut; being stuck to the spot unable to lift his camera; being woken up in the middle of the night by loud noises; animals dropping dead in his path; and strange lights appearing outside his window were just a few of the eerie happenings.

Solitude

With a ten-hour drive to his nearest neighbours at Carnegie Station, Doug's only contact with humans was the chats he had with pilots who occasionally flew in with supplies from Newman, 700 kms. west of Patience.

On May 21, his tranquility was shattered by flying objects and strange noises.

The night of May 21 began like any others. Doug, aged 60, and until then sceptical about UFOs, explained what happened: "Normally, I would turn the generator off, to conserve fuel, and spend the evenings in darkness. I was standing in front of the gas stove, looking out across the desert at the beautiful stars, and saw this very bright white light, which seemed to cover miles.

"Thinking it was a convoy of trucks or a truck with huge lights for driving at night, I thought I had visitors. I put the coffee on for my guests. Normally you don't see a soul, and I got quite excited at the prospect of having a chat with someone.

"Then the light disappeared, and I assumed they had broken down. I was disappointed, and sat down. Out of the corner of my eye I saw an eerie box of light about the size of a huge furniture removal-van, a metre off the road, and moving across the desert. After a few minutes, it hovered over the sand-hill horizon, then faded, became smaller, and gradually disappeared."

Over the following few months, Doug said, the strange light appeared more frequently, and in varying forms, until his return to Perth last October.

Sometimes it was shaped like an inverted balloon, at other times like a beam, and it was often accompanied by a loud roar which Doug described as similar to that of a power drill.

One night he prepared to chase a cube of flashing lights in his Nissan patrol-van. But his battery was flat. *It was as if the lights had absorbed his electricity.* The battery was a three-month-old heavy-duty *"Truckie"*, and it was completely flat.

"The next evening", said Doug, "the whole camp area was lit up by a square of very bright, white, light, and the diesel engine and generator went into overload, losing power, and the bright lights of the camp dimmed to very dull glows and died out. The diesel, weighing over 20 tonnes, and mounted on a steel skid, began to bounce up and down, making a real thumping sound on the ground."

Doug photographed three saucer-shaped objects flying in a formation, but the pictures came out a gold colour. Doug said: "The film processor said that meant the film had been subject to extreme heat and radiation".

Blind

He said the desert animals showed strange reactions to the lights and the flying objects.

"I saw night hawks, which have incredible eyesight, fly straight into the side of the drill, and I came across a deaf and blind dingo. Birds just dropped dead in my path."

Doug brought back with him a rock that he had found in a burnt saucer-shaped area which he described as about 14 m. in diameter. He said: "People at the Department of Physics at AAIT (West Australian Institute of Technology) said it had been heated to 1400 °C."

Doug wasn't deterred by his ordeal, and is already restless to "go bush" again.

ANOTHER ALASKAN REPORT?

In an article by the Spanish reporter Fernando Mendoza carried in the newspaper *El Adelantado* of Salamanca (March 24, 1987) — and not so far as we know yet seen anywhere else — it is stated that at about 11.15 p.m. local time on March 17, 1987, near Anchorage, Alaska, four U.S. coastguards stationed in that region claimed to have observed separately (from different observation sites) a squadron of very brightly shining UFOs travelling northwards towards the Pole. Mike Haller, a spokesman for the four men, expressed the opinion that what they had seen may have been some Space satellite coming down and burning up, or perhaps one of the U.S. "AWAC" radar early warning

(Continued on page 13)

OBITUARY

Charles Bowen

by Professor R.H.B. Winder

OUR friend and colleague Charles Bowen, Editor of *Flying Saucer Review,* died on the 14 October 1987 after a long and debilitating illness which attacked him soon after retirement from his principal job. He was just 69 years old. Our deepest sympathies go to his Wife, Helen, and their four talented children.

Charles was a Londoner, born on the 21 September 1918 in Bermondsey, educated at Battersea Grammar School. War service took him to Norway and Sierra Leone with the Welsh Fusiliers, as a Staff Sergeant in Intelligence working on radio and radar. He was a man with many interests, and talents, none of them superficial, ranging from music to journalism. He loved Mozart and was a competent pianist, but he also wrote articles on Philately and Football, read (and spoke) Chaucer's English, and lectured on a variety of subjects. It is not surprising that such a wide view should lead him to an early interest in our subject and take him on to edit one of its leading journals.

He told the story of his first meeting with Waveney Girvan, his predecessor at the *Review,* when he wrote Waveney's obituary published in the November–December 1964 issue. They were introduced by a mutual acquaintance and fellow reader, only to discover that they commuted regularly on the same trains between Waterloo and Woking. For several years thereafter our enigmatic subject received regular and intensive airing on the Southern Railway. Charles' innate leanings towards journalism, the knowledge he gleaned from Waveney and the friendship that developed between them out of their shared interest made Charles the ideal successor when Waveney, sadly, died in October 1964.

Charles' twenty years of unpaid active service on the *Review* made him, by far, its longest serving editor. The magazine prospered under his stewardship, steadily increasing its circulation, its influence, and its world-wide circle of associates and friends expert in the strange and controversial subject with which it deals. He also edited the remarkably successful and widely published *The Humanoids* and *Close Encounters of the Third Kind.* He maintained a consistent commonsense policy in a field notorious for a dotty element which its strangeness is apt to foster. His sensible talks and discussions on television and radio in addition to his sober editing of the *Review* confounded those who would consign us to the madhouse, and contributed greatly to the measure of respect that the subject now enjoys.

We all owe him a great deal.

OBITUARY

Tim Dinsdale

FOLLOWING upon the sad loss of our erstwhile Editor Charles Bowen, FSR has recently sustained another crippling loss of a much loved and valued Consultant, for on December 17, 1987, the newspapers carried the report (*Daily Telegraph* of that date) of the sudden passing — and at the early age of only 63 years — of our old, old friend and colleague, Tim Dinsdale, famous for his books and for his many years spent in investigating the *"Loch Ness Monsters"* and other strange creatures.

Tim, a qualified aeronautical engineer by training, had had an extremely interesting life. Like myself, he spent many years in China, having lived there as a child. He even had the extraordinary experience of being one of 400 British children aboard a steamer which was captured by a huge band of Chinese pirates. (In fact, as a young Vice-Consul, I was one of the diplomats who had the job of negotiating the children's release!)

Tim Dinsdale had a vast amount of knowledge ranging over a very wide field, not excluding what we term the "paranormal' or the "para-psychological". Like myself, he was a member of that very exclusive little body known as *"The Ghost Club"* (the oldest body of its kind in Britain — older even than the Society for Psychical Research where we were both members too), and I frequently had the pleasure of discussing with him some of the more "weird" features that beset both "our subject" and the subject of *"Forteana"* and mystery animals, etc., and we were in general agreement as to what lies behind it all.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes to his wife, Wendy, and their family. — G.C.

THE LOST HARRIER JET AND THE CORNFIELD RINGS: EXCLUSIVE!

© Colin Andrews, M.A.S.E.E., A.I.L.E., FSR Consultant

COMPLETE mystery still surrounds the top-secret British *Harrier GR5* jump-jet aircraft which, pilotless, flew on for over 500 miles and eventually crashed into the Atlantic Ocean off the south coast of Ireland on Thursday, October 22, 1987.

The machine had taken off from Dunsfold in Surrey on a test flight at 16.59 hrs. with Pilot Humphrey Taylor Scott at the controls. Six minutes later, and without any hint of an emergency from its pilot, radio contact was suddenly lost over Wiltshire to the west.

The last radio message was a routine one, to air-traffic controllers at the top-secret Boscombe Down Air Force Base near Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Filmed by Americans

Other aircraft were immediately alerted after the loss of radio contact, and an American military transporter made visual contact with the *Harrier* 90 miles to the west of the south-west tip of Ireland. The transporter was conveniently equipped with video camera, and filmed the *Harrier* in flight! The astonished American crew reported *that the jet-fighter had no cockpit canopy, and that its pilot was missing.* They shadowed the *Harrier* for 410 miles, until it finally went down 500 miles out over the Atlantic Ocean.

The Pilot Found

Despite a huge search operation, involving aircraft, shipping, life-boats and even mountain-rescue teams in South Wales, no trace of the pilot could be found. Then, on Friday, October 23, a gamekeeper, Mr Ken Pitman, came across the body of an airman lying in a field near the village of Winterbourne Stoke, near Stonehenge, in Wiltshire. A local television news programme gave this announcement as a late news item received at the end of the programme. I immediately got into my car and headed along the A303 Highway towards the village, which is just 18 miles from my home in Andover, Hampshire.

The location of Winterbourne Stoke already meant something to me, for it was in a cornfield near that village that a set of four mysterious circles of "swirled", flattened indentations had been found on Saturday, August 22, only eight weeks earlier. Photo 1 shows these large formations as they were when found, and was taken by Nigel Taylor as we flew over the area on one of our regular reconnaissance inspections of the area.

When I arrived at Winterbourne Stoke after hearing the news programme announcement, I at once made my way to the field where we had found these circles some weeks earlier.

A battery of floodlights cut into the darkened countryside, *and surrounded a spot in a field just opposite to the site of our set of "mystery circles".* A large gathering of Military Personnel could be seen moving around inside the illuminated area. A parachute lay nearby. In the darkness I could just make out two Army vehicles parked in the corner of that very field where the circles had been found. Whoever was in the vehicles was guarding an inflatable dinghy.

For some reason which I cannot explain (except to say that it was *intuitive* — EDITOR) I had had a strong inner feeling that the finding of the pilot might in some way be associated with the phenomenon of the circles. And I had that feeling even before I heard where the accident had happened. Strangely, therefore, it did not come as a great surprise to me when I heard that the mishap to the pilot had taken place *above that very field where the circles had been.* It seemed only a confirmation.

I decided that the most responsible action I could take would be to contact the Ministry of Defence and inform them of my researches on the mystery rings in the cornfields throughout southern Britain in particular as well as in other parts of the world, and explain to them how this incident with the *Harrier* aircraft troubled me.

Reaction of Ministry of Defence

So on November 2, 1987, I telephoned to the Boscombe Down Air Force Base. They informed me that the *Harrier* inquiry had now been transferred to Prospect House in London, and advised me to talk to the man heading the inquiry, Squadron-Leader Graham Davis. I rang the telephone number which they had given me, and was answered by a Sq.-Ldr. Pike, who told me that Sq. Ldr. Davis was still out on Salisbury Plain conducting his investigations, and that it was he (Sq.-Ldr. Davis) to whom I should tell what I had to say.

Until that point I had made no mention of the cornfield circles. I now proceeded to tell Sq.-Ldr. Pike of our research and of our recent discoveries near this village of Winterbourne Stoke. *He was very interested, and asked me many questions.* "How do you think these circles are formed?" he asked. "What kind of energy do you suppose is involved?" "Where have you seen these things?" "Do you know of anybody who has seen one being formed?" etc., etc.

I explained that I believed the phenomenon was very rare indeed but nevertheless world-wide, but that this, the southern part of England, is experiencing a far higher frequency of reports than any other part of the entire world. And I concluded: *"What I feel to be significant is that this very field in which four circles were recently found lies directly below the area in Space where it seems that this pilot was taken out of his £13.5 million pounds' worth of Jet-fighter."*

Later on that same day I received a telephone call from the Ministry of Defence to advise me that my information had been conveyed to Sq.-Ldr. Davis, and that it had also been "conveyed to the Boss". "We will be in touch with you again soon," they said.

Pilot Changed Course

Nothing further has been heard from the Ministry so far. Meanwhile I have been carrying on with my own investigations and enquiries in and around Winterbourne Stoke, *and the information I have obtained confirms that the* Harrier *changed its course by a few degrees right over the field with the circles, and that the pilot inexplicably left his aircraft at about that point in his flight. He was not ejected by the ejector-seat with which the aircraft was fitted. That remained in the aircraft. An inflatable dinghy left the aircraft with him, as*

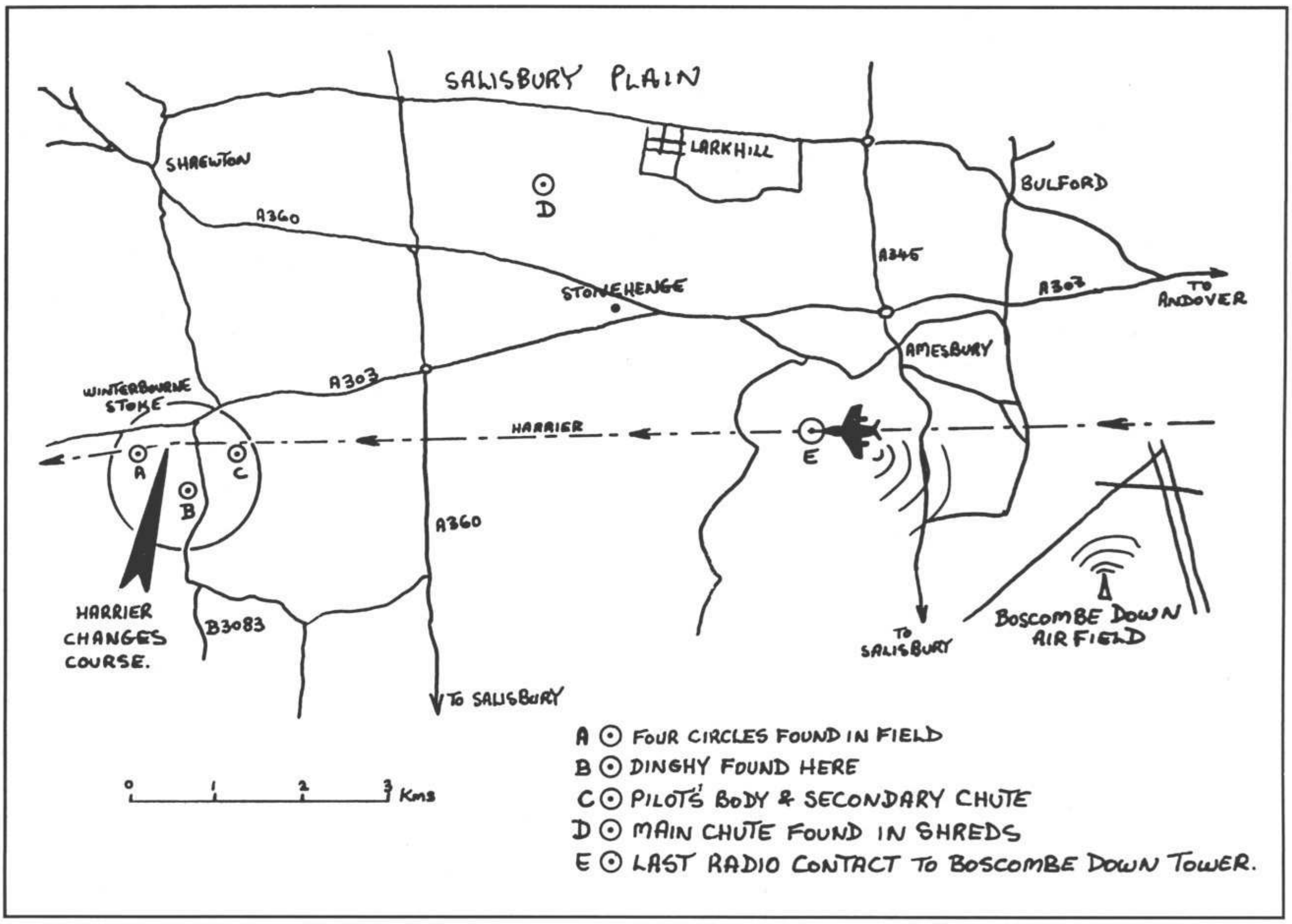


Photo No 1. Rings at Winterbourne Stoke, Wiltshire.
(Photo by F.C. Taylor on August 22, 1987.)

Photographs 2 and 3 (Colin Andrews).
Crashed Army helicopter at Stockbridge Downs, October 1978.

did his main parachute.

The main chute was found in shreds, north of the famous circle of stones, Stonehenge. The body of the pilot and his secondary chute were found at a spot overlooking the field that had the mystery circles in August 1987.

The dinghy was found in that same field which had had the circles.

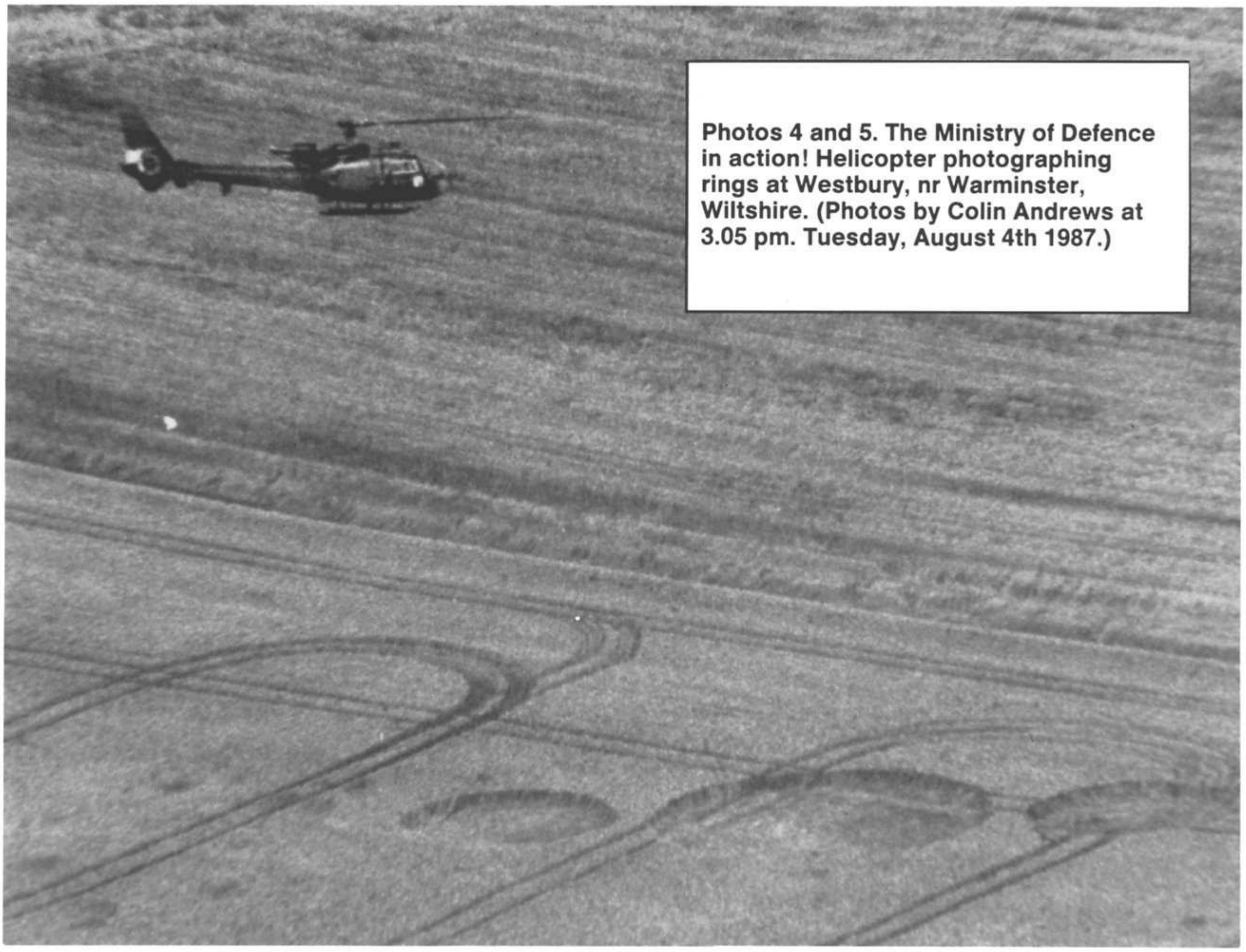
This means that we now have two extremely strange and rare occurrences, both attributed to completely mysterious causes, over one and the same field within the span of a few weeks (August 22, 1987, and October 22, 1987). Can there be a connection?

Other Crashes

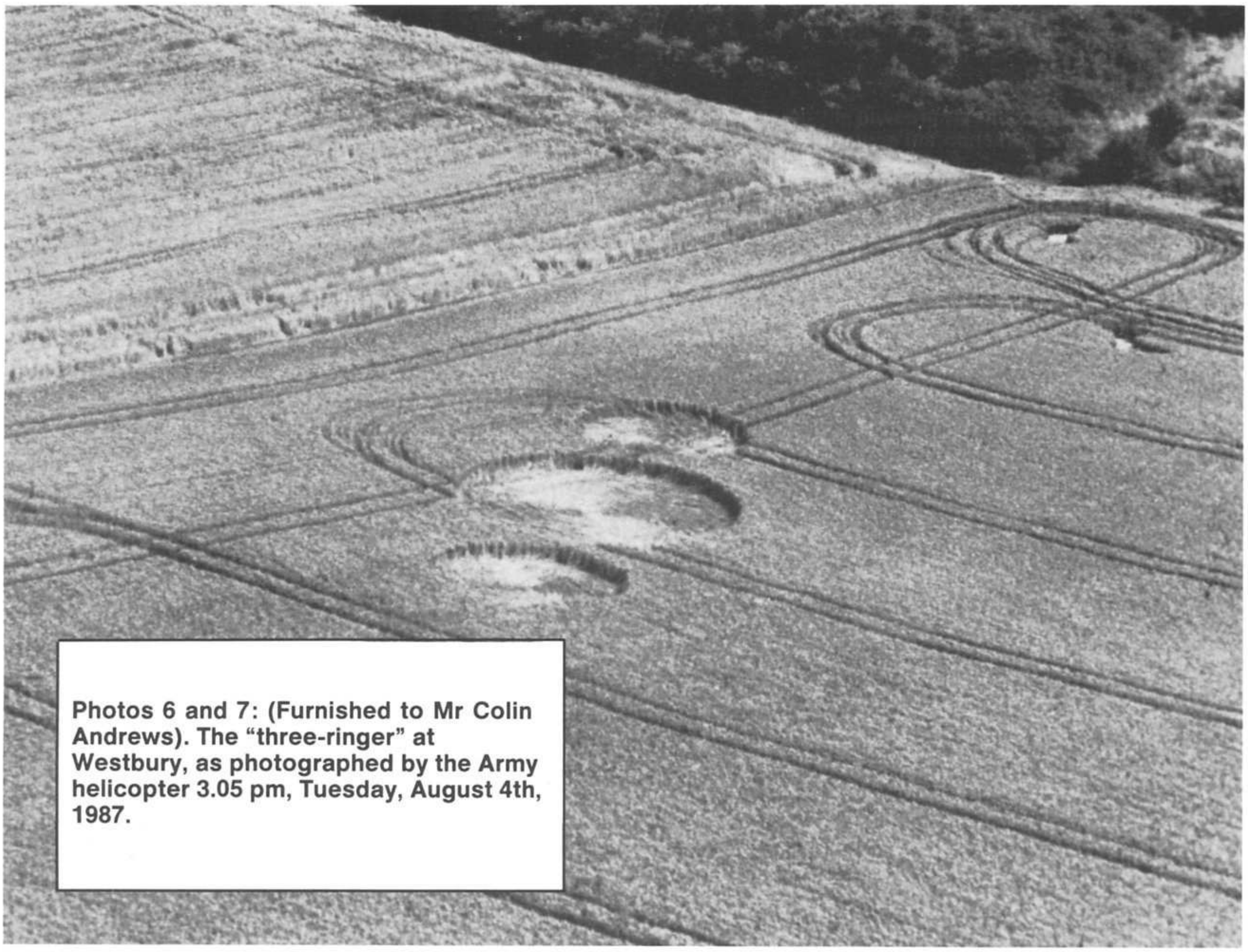
The situation is not improved when we have to take into consideration other aircraft crashes in fields on which other circles have been found.

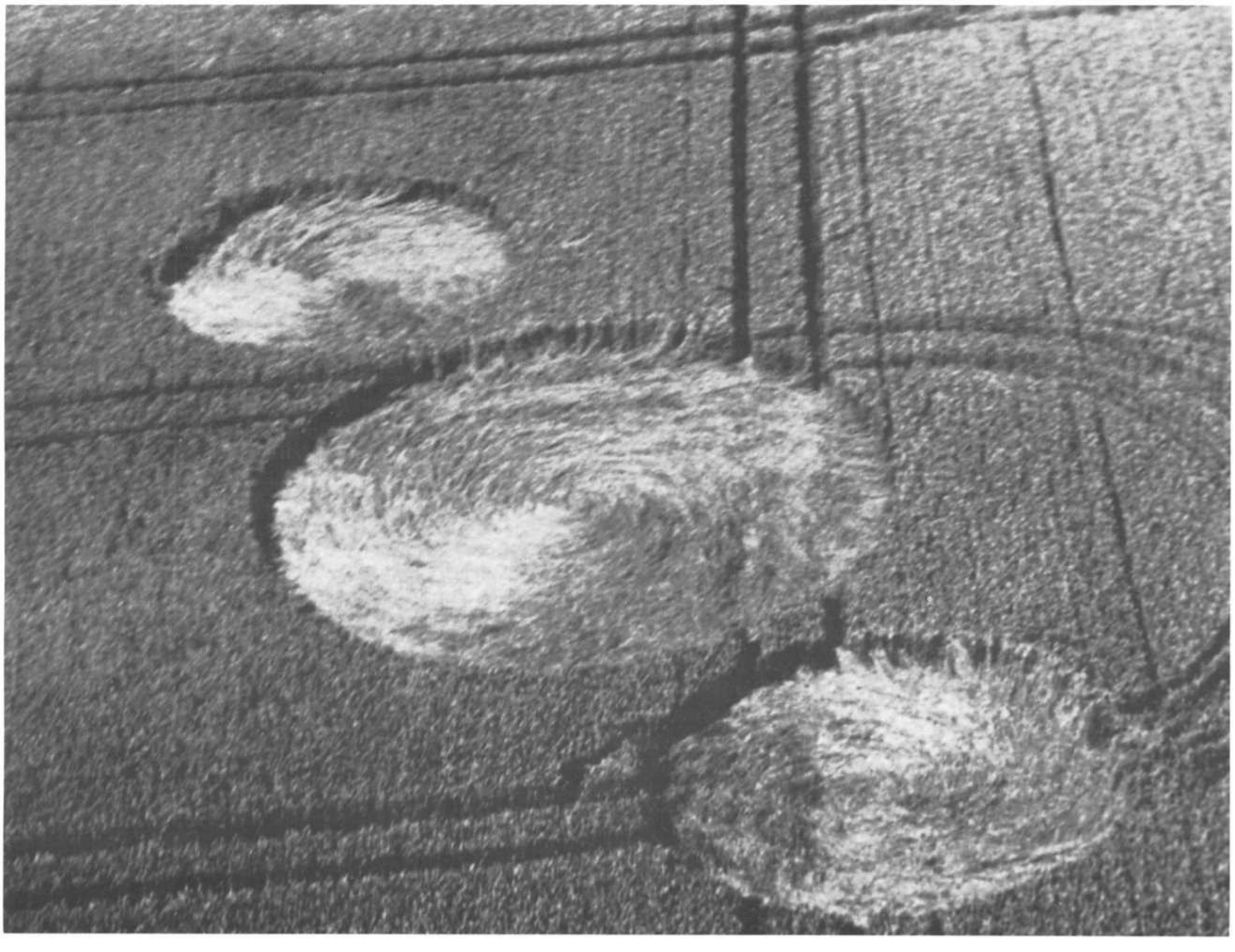
One such crash took place in a field below Pepperbox Hill, near Whiteparish, in Wiltshire, approximately thirty years ago. Two mysterious circles were found shortly afterwards, just yards away from the site of the crash. And circles are still appearing in these same fields, the latest being a circle and a ring found in June 1987.

Photographs 2 and 3 were taken by me and show



Photos 4 and 5. The Ministry of Defence in action! Helicopter photographing rings at Westbury, nr Warminster, Wiltshire. (Photos by Colin Andrews at 3.05 pm. Tuesday, August 4th 1987.)





Photos 6 and 7: (Furnished to Mr Colin Andrews). The "three-ringer" at Westbury, as photographed by the Army helicopter 3.05 pm, Tuesday, August 4th, 1987.

an Army helicopter which crashed in October 1978 at the exact spot where a huge UFO would be seen, on Stockbridge Downs, on July 6, 1985 (nearly seven years later) by Mr Jack and Mrs Pat Collins. Ten circles appeared in fields on either side of the UFO during that same night. (See FSR Vol. 32, No. 6, published 1987.)

The Inquest

The inquest regarding the cause of death of the *Harrier* pilot, Humphrey Taylor Scott, was held in Salisbury on Monday March 28, 1988. The M.o.D (Ministry of Defence) said that, without examining the ejector-seat, which was still presumably in the aircraft at the bottom of the sea, it was not possible to identify the cause of the accident positively. But the most plausible reason, they said, was the inadvertent firing of a manual separation-device, designed for use after the ejector-seat had left the aircraft. This firing may have been caused by a lead lamp having fallen from its clip and become lodged under the manual override operating rod on the right of the seat, which linked the handle to the cartridge-firing unit.

Interesting Admissions by an Officer

However, when I spoke to Sq. Ldr. Graham Davis that same evening, he was surprisingly frank and told me: *"We do not know what caused this, quite honestly".* He went on to say: "I do not think the mystery circles, which I have also seen, and this, *are related on this occasion."* He admitted that the circles formations were a puzzling phenomenon, and he asked me to contact him again if I had any more information which I considered they should know about. He said: *"There is a lot that we don't know."*

I was impressed by Sq. Ldr. Davis's attitude, and by his willingness to discuss "our problem" and "theirs". I had the distinct feeling that he was unhappy with the whole affair. He was keen for me to tell him all about other ring and circle formations found in the locality, and, in particular, he was interested in the 38 circles found by us across Wiltshire during the summer of 1987 — circles in which a large number of plants had been ripped out of the ground, with their roots and soil attached, and thrown by some force completely out of the compressed circles on to the surrounding area. (A force well capable of lifting the canopy of a *Harrier* jet?)

Official Concern

We are still receiving details from several parts of the world concerning the findings of such circles at spots where UFO landings are known to have taken place.

Moreover, it is very evident that the Ministry of Defence are taking a real interest in the alarming increase in both UFO sightings and circular markings.*

Some Interesting Photographs

Photographs 4 and 5 (taken by myself) shows one of the British Army's helicopters hovering above a field, containing several circles at Westbury, near Warminster, Wiltshire, on August 4, 1987.

Indeed, I have also been enabled to possess some of

Photographs 8 and 9: (Furnished to Mr. Colin Andrews.)
The "two-ringer" at Westbury as photographed by the Army helicopter, 3.05 p.m. Tuesday, August 4, 1987.

the photographs of the rings that were actually taken on that day from that particular Army helicopter, and here they are! (Photographs 6, 7, 8, 9).

Further Discussion with an Officer

On the evening of that same day on which I had snapped the picture of the Army helicopter (August 4, 1987) I exchanged certain information, on this matter of the rings discovered by our investigation group, with a Senior Army officer. All in all, my discussions with these officials have left me with the very clear impression that there is far, far more in all this than meets the eye, as the saying has it, and that there is profound uneasiness about the UFOs and about the mystery circles.*

Unlike some of the "scientific fraternity" who we hear quoted, and unlike those supposed "UFO researchers" who enjoy putting about slanderous misrepresentations on both sides of the Atlantic, it is evident that the people in charge of our National Defence and those who operate as pilots in our skies are quite sure that the answers to all these big questions are not to be found in some *meteorological* manual, nor will they be forthcoming from some hoaxer's diary. *The truth of the matter is probably a great deal more worrying than that!*

If and when further developments occur, we shall publish them in FSR.

NOTE BY EDITOR

* All the confidential information now reaching us from many well-placed and well-informed quarters, particularly in the USA, Australia, and Britain, indicates that the Governments are thoroughly worried. And if the posture and behaviour of Comrade Crookback over there in Moscow also seems a trifle out of character with what we have learned to expect from such gentry, the reason assuredly lies with the UFOs. — G.C.

(From page 5)

aircraft flying over. But Captain Bryan Holt, local head of the public relations department of NORAD denied that, up till midnight on the day in question *any* satellite, American or other, had passed over the area. And a spokesman for the U.S. Air Force Base at Elmendorf, near Anchorage, denied that there had been any AWAC aircraft out on a mission that night. Captain Bryan Holt then stated that what they had seen must have been a meteor (though no scientific or astronomical installation in the region seems to have observed such a body that night).

As the coastguards in the Alaskan area are noted for their careful and conscientious reporting, this mention of the "squadron of UFOs" seen by them, coming as it did so soon after the Japanese pilots' sightings over Alaska, attracted much attention.

WHAT THEY'RE DOING TO US

© *Budd Hopkins*

Mr Budd Hopkins, who has reported exhaustively on his investigation of the abduction phenomenon in his books *Missing Time* (1981) and *Intruders* (1987), has very kindly given his consent for this important article to be reprinted in FSR. It has already appeared in the USA. — EDITOR

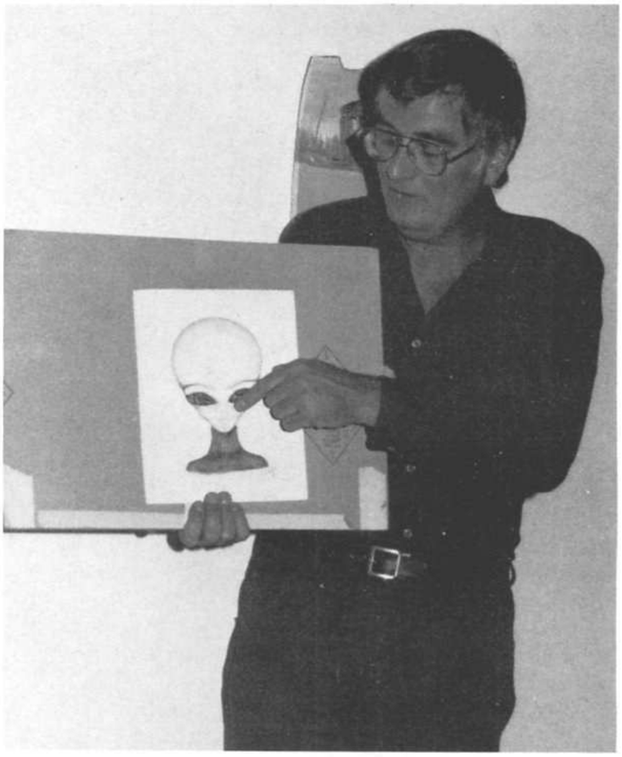
It is in the nature of human psychology that an event as dramatic as contact with extraterrestrial intelligence cannot be thought about neutrally, without deep-seated hopes and preconceptions. Most of us, I'm certain, prefer to believe that extraterrestrials would arrive on our planet as friendly, helpful beings, eager to share their technology and to aid us in solving our social and ecological problems. Upon this basic and very human wish certain people have erected a powerful set of interpretations of modern-day UFO reports. These hopes, hardened into a kind of theology, can be described as a modern religion, willed into existence after the decline of our more traditional deities. After all, we have been told more than once that God is dead.

On the other hand, our recent wars, both hot and cold, and the venality and deceit we have seen in many of our political leaders have also inspired an undercurrent of pessimism, global in extent. International chaos, terrorism and governmental incompetence have trained many of us always to expect the worst. And so, if the majority opinion, or hope, is that extraterrestrials would arrive as Space Brothers, a strong minority opinion fears the opposite: that we would find ourselves taken over by a band of intergalactic conquerors. Our popular science-fiction films spell out these hopes and fears quite literally. We have the kindly Space Brother, Michael Rennie, stepping out of a gleaming spaceship to help earthlings through their troubles, and then we have Body Snatchers out to do us all in. I've dwelt on these basic attitudes about extraterrestrial contact for an important reason: when we examine reports of actual contact, especially as revealed in UFO-abduction encounters, we must always bear in mind how our basic preconceptions might influence our reading of these events.

After 12 years' experience investigating the abduction phenomenon, I will not deal with the validity of such reports in this paper. I've considered this issue elsewhere, in two books and a number of articles, so we will here assume that the abductees I've worked with, more than 150 in all, are telling the truth as they best recall it. I will concentrate, instead, on what their accounts tell us about the moral nature of the UFO phenomenon. Are the UFO occupants, as they are described by their abductees, good or bad, friends or foes, or is the situation just not reducible to such terms? The very first step, previously, is to analyze what the abductees say they feel about their captors, and that, every investigator knows, is a complex task. My 12 years' experience leads me to a distinct conclusion: each abductee's emotions are invariably intense and many-leveled — and usually mutually contradictory.

First of all, confrontations with UFO occupants are generally experienced as frightening, so fear, at some point, is an almost universal element in the emotional mix. Second, there is a kind of awe or wonder at the power and seeming magic of the aliens' technology. This often translates itself into a kind of affection, even love, that an abductee might feel for the captor with whom he or she senses a special relationship.

On the other side of the same coin is an almost universal anger — verging sometimes on hatred — that abductees feel toward their abductors because of their enforced helplessness, their sense of having been used, involuntarily, and even, upon occasion, of being made to suffer severe pain. According to every broad study of the abduction literature that I know of, and Thomas E. Bullard's is the most authoritative, fear, awe, affection and anger are the basic emotional components of almost every UFO-abduction experience.



Budd Hopkins, author of the important books *Missing Time* and *Intruders*, lecturing on UFO abductions at Truro, Cape Cod, Mass, USA. Summer 1985. (Photo by Geraldine Proctor.)

It is safe to say, then, that *powerful and confusing* emotions follow such experiences, and that after their encounters abductees do not believe they have been taken either by purely malevolent foes or by selfless, angelic Space Brothers. The situation is far too complicated for either simplistic reading.

* * * * *

During the past eight years I have conducted an informal support group for UFO abductees in the New York City area and have kept in touch with many others in various parts of the country. These circumstances have allowed me to observe a number of men and women over an extended period of time and to see various patterns of response to their abduction experiences. The weight of each component in the standard emotional mix varies widely from individual to individual and also changes with time within any one psyche. But the basic components always seem to

remain, subtly at odds with one another, in each abductee.

Several things must be kept in mind, however, as we study the abductees' emotional charts. First, when one is abducted, he or she is in something of an altered state, not unlike a hypnotic trance. The abductee is *controlled* by the abductors and his or her behavior is in many ways far from normal. The abductees may be told things, shown things, that may not be true or "real". So in this context we must consider the abductee's occasional affection for his or her captors. Psychologists have shown that this phenomenon, the "Patty Hearst" syndrome, all too often appears in earthly kidnapping experiences.

Therefore, in evaluating the four emotions commonly described by UFO abductees, three seem appropriate but one must be dealt with warily. Fear is something one would surely expect if the aliens actually look and act as reported by their captives. Feelings of awe at the aliens' technological magic are an emotion that again seems appropriate. Anger, often extreme anger, seems to be most abductees' reaction to being paralyzed and controlled by their captors. The physically invasive and sometimes painful operations performed upon them underline this response, which is often deepened because the UFO occupants usually refuse to discuss the purpose of these disturbing procedures. One has no choice except to submit to needles, lights, knives, "scanners" and so forth, with no power to protest or refuse. "I feel like a lab rat," one abductee said, her anger entirely appropriate to her situation.

It is the odd affection abductees often report feeling for their captors that seems suspect, under the circumstances. Is the feeling possibly an artificial emotion, induced telepathically through some kind of quasi-hypnotic control? Is it a version of the Patty Hearst syndrome? Is it a genuine reaction? Obviously no one can answer these questions satisfactorily, but it seems to me that affection is the one common abduction response that must be viewed with suspicion.

When one tries to tally up the pros and cons of an abduction experience as it immediately and visibly affects human emotion, it can be said that two reactions are essentially negative, or even damaging. Fear and anger, which are often felt deeply as terror and hatred, are surely disruptive of anyone's life. The sense of awe, while basically neutral and sometimes tinged with fear, may enhance one's world view and thus contribute positively. The fourth and most suspect emotion, affection for one's captors, if genuine is a positive one. So the emotional "score" after an abduction experience does not support either a simple "Space Brother" or "Body Snatcher" interpretation. Judging purely by obvious surface reactions, we are still in ethically mixed territory, though to me and to many abductees the negative effects seem more powerful than the positive.

* * * * *

Moving away from the patterns of the abductees' immediate emotional responses, we can evaluate the ethical content of an extraterrestrial presence by considering another, larger plane. Is there any evidence that extraterrestrial intelligence has actively intervened in human affairs, either helpfully or destructively?

The modern era of UFO activity begins in earnest in 1947, but many UFO reports surfaced during World War II in the phenomenon labeled "foo fighters" by our airmen. No force, either extraterrestrial or otherwise, put a stop to the Holocaust until Allied armies conquered Nazi Germany. By then it was too late for millions of innocent people, murdered by a system no one seemed able to stop. The United States developed nuclear weapons and used them to incinerate tens of thousands of children, women and men. No one, terrestrial or otherwise, prevented those bombs from falling. Continuing Stalinist butchery, international terrorism, American intervention in a Vietnamese civil war — all meant that thousands upon thousands of innocent people lost their lives because of the cruelty or indifference of political leaders of every persuasion. No one intervened. Michael Rennie, alas, never stepped out of his spaceship to save us from ourselves.

We have polluted our planet, spreading cancer by industry's greedy indifference to the consequences of chemical "bonanzas". No one came to our rescue; the Chariots of the Gods evidently drew up just to watch the damage deepen. And now we have a new plague — the disease known by its ironic acronym AIDS ... something fresh and new that we apparently did not have before the advent of the modern UFO era.

Now all of this means one thing. As a moral presence the UFO phenomenon seems sublimely indifferent to what we do to ourselves. Intervention is evidently not part of the plan, as diving into the surf to rescue a drowning child is sometimes not part of an indolent sunbather's plans. On the other hand there seems to be no evidence that an extraterrestrial presence has inflicted any excess pain upon us, either. If Michael Rennie's alien saves us only in Hollywood films, the evil, intervening Body Snatchers seem to exist only there, too. I believe that the cruelty that mankind has endured in this century has an all-too-human origin; one doesn't have to look to spaceships for its cause. And we look to them in vain for salvation.

But how should we evaluate what seems inescapable evidence of extraterrestrial indifference to human tragedy? I feel that the grades should be harsh. The power and technology revealed by UFO report upon UFO report indicate that investigation of some kind should have been possible; help should have been given. Apologists for a Space-Brothers theory use the same argument as Christian apologists: The UFO occupants, like God, tolerate evils such as the Holocaust because life is only a fleeting reality — the afterlife, or a reincarnated life, renders this question moot. As a Humanist I disagree. The death of a child at the hands of a gun-bearing adult is an abomination, not a necessary learning experience. The only excuse I can offer for extraterrestrial indifference is some kind of flaw in their apparent power, some very real vulnerability that might provide them with an excuse to avoid moral responsibility the way our indolent sunbather could avoid trying to save the drowning child because he, himself, might be unable to swim.

A few valid UFO cases contain accounts of healing, descriptions of wounds made whole, eyesight strengthened and so on, after UFO abductions or encounters. These rare examples of healing, however, raise more ethical problems than they solve. If the occupants of UFOs *do* have the power to heal, why is it used so sparingly, so arbitrarily? Why save one swimmer and let the others drown?

A woman I've worked with and know well was abducted along with her older sister. Each had had childhood abductions; each had lived uneasily with

her memories. Last spring the older sister was murdered in a park, by an apparently deranged individual. The tragedy had nothing to do with UFOs, but my friend said this to me: "I've always thought, somehow, they were looking out for us, watching over the people they'd taken in these experiments. Now I know I'm no safer than anyone else. They don't seem to care." And yet in one case I know about an abductee was apparently saved in a similar situation. The arbitrariness of it all undermines any attempt to accept a Space Brother reading of the entire phenomenon. Amorality is the term that comes most quickly to mind.

* * * * *

If the immediate emotional reactions to UFO abductions are usually more negative than positive and there is literally no sign of benign extraterrestrial intervention in world affairs, there is still one more area to examine, and it is extremely important. It is the long-term psychological and physical aftereffects of UFO-abduction experiences. Dr. Aphrodite Clamar, a clinical psychologist with whom I have worked in many such investigations, has stated that she feels almost every abductee she has dealt with has been psychologically scarred by the experience. This is surely my opinion also, and I believe that the psychological tests of abductees administered by Dr. Elizabeth Slater, as well as the psychological histories taken through Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, all provide support for this thesis. Though she points out that cause and effect obviously cannot be established with certainty, Dr. Slater describes the psychological profiles of the nine abductees she tested as resembling those found with rape victims: a low self esteem, a distrust of their bodies, their physicality, their sexuality, and a hesitancy to trust others. Not a pretty legacy from our would-be Space Brothers.

My case files include three instances in which individuals — all males and apparently somewhat depressed to begin with — committed suicide after what were described by their friends and family as UFO-abduction experiences. And there is more on this debit side of the ledger, including what seems to have been an accident following a car-stopping incident and abduction; the driver, the only surviving parent of four children, died later of complications suffered in this encounter. Two female abductees I've worked with either planned or carried out suicide attempts when they were 10 years old, and another recent attempt involves a frightened, despondent 14-year-old girl.

No one who has had this experience regards it as an unmitigated blessing. Some live in perpetual terror. Some have suffered nervous breakdowns and as a result of their experiences and the chemical and shock treatments administered by baffled and incompetent doctors are living thoroughly damaged lives. I have seen disfiguring scars on the bodies of abductees who have involuntarily been used in the UFO occupants' "medical" procedures. Yet I have also seen abductees whose lives have been undeniably broadened by their bizarre experiences: survivors who have managed the human task of surmounting their traumas and gaining something from them.

The reports, again, are mixed, but the pain and suffering are immense. Deaths, injuries, terrors and mental breakdowns must be weighed against a philosophical broadening in many individuals, an awareness that the universe is larger — and closer — than anyone has imagined. The cost, of course, has been tremendous, and the gain due more to human resilience than alien kindness.

* * * * *

But there is, I believe, an explanation for the apparently callous and often destructive behavior of the aliens who perpetrate these temporary kidnappings of innocent men, women and children. One vivid example should make the point.

Two years ago a Minnesota man whom I shall call Earl wrote to me about his partially remembered UFO experiences. Eventually I visited him on his farm and we began a series of hypnotic regressions. He recalled a time years before when his wife had been helping him harvest a crop of hay in a rather isolated field. She lay down to rest on the wagon while Earl worked a few hundred yards away ... but then he saw three small UFOs fly in at tree-top level and hover above his sleeping wife. One of them lowered to the ground as Earl put his tractor in gear and raced to her side to protect her from whatever was happening. A normal-looking blond man, speaking English, stepped from behind the clump of trees where the UFO had landed and asked Earl to stop. "Everything is all right," he said, "She won't be hurt."

Earl ignored him and leaped off the tractor, continuing on foot toward the wagon where his wife lay, surrounded now by small, gray-skinned figures. Earl suddenly found himself paralyzed and helpless. He stood there, unable to move, as the blond man continued speaking, assuring him that "everything is all right. Nothing will happen to your mate."

Earl watched in horror as his paralyzed wife was undressed. A long needle was pushed into her abdomen as she lay on a bed of hay, crying out at the pain but unable to resist. Skin and hair samples were taken, and a thin probe was inserted into her vagina. Still frozen in place, Earl cursed and raged, and the blond man seemed genuinely surprised by his reaction. "We *want* you to see this," he said. "We're not hurting your mate. She'll be fine. Why are you upset? We're not hurting her..."

The scene ended shortly thereafter, and the couple returned home, aware of a period of missing time but with no memories of the UFO encounter. In the days and weeks after this event, Earl's wife began suffering from nightmares, clawing in her sleep at the area near the bridge of her nose, between her eyes, and screaming for them to "take it out, it's hurting." She dug deep gouges in her forehead while the nightmares continued unabated. Other symptoms of her terror appeared, half-understood recollections of the events in the hay field. Eventually she had to be hospitalized, suffering from a severe nervous breakdown. She lives at home now, tranquilized, no longer herself.

This story is but one of many that I could present to illustrate a central point about UFO occupants and their relation to their human subjects: they simply appear unable for the most part to understand us, our feelings, our terrors, our love for one another. They seem psychologically blind to basic human emotions. In *Intruders* I recounted case after case in which women were artificially inseminated or endured ova-retrieval operations, but whose reactions of rage or terror surprised their captors. These impassive UFO occupants seem as remote from our "peculiar" human emotions as they are from our obviously differing anatomy: perhaps more so. And their lack of under-

standing offers a kind of excuse for their callous behavior.

* * * * *

It seems to me that we are left with but two possibilities, neither very attractive. If the UFO occupants actually do understand us and can empathize with our needs and emotions, then they are morally deficient — even in their single-minded selfishness. Not malevolent or deliberately evil, but as callous as the sunbather who watches the child drown in the surf. At some point, amoral behavior becomes immoral behavior. But if these same alien beings *simply do not understand our feelings,* then they have an excuse of sorts for their behavior. And the evidence suggests they really may not know what disasters they sometimes cause. A female abductee recently wrote me a letter which goes in part:

"I was watching a show about animals, because I love animals. I don't know if it was *Wild Kingdom* or some *National Geographic* show, but these scientists were tracking some polar bears. They had all kinds of weird looking equipment and were using a white board which rendered them invisible in the snow to the bears. As I watched I got a real sick feeling in the pit of my stomach. These scientists were dressed in identical white suits, lured the bears closer, and drugged the big one with the cubs. The whole time they were tagging her they were taking blood samples, measuring fat, checking eyes, mouth, etc. And whenever the bear struggled they would pet her, talk to her, tell her everything was going to be fine. The scientists placed a device on her that would track her movements for so many years. They even marked her with a special paint that could be spotted from the air. Then when they were through with her they ran and hid behind the big screen so that when she woke up she wouldn't see them. She got up, looked around, and ran so fast her cubs could hardly keep up. Imagine how she must have felt the other times when they followed her in a helicopter. She could run, but with the paint and homing device she could never hide! I think all we are is a bunch of animals to these beings. Some little experiment that has been ongoing for who knows how long. I don't like the idea of being something's lab animal."

I thought about her letter, her understanding of the animal's plight and traumas inflicted by the scientists upon the bear and its cubs. These zoologists — as well as the occupants of UFOs, one hopes — are all acting from decent, scientific motives. And yet in both cases pain is inflicted, paralysis is imposed, and traumatic terror is the result. Some animals might abandon their cubs after such an experience or die of a mis-measured dose of a tranquilizing drug or even die from pure shock, just as some humans, like Earl's poor wife, may never recover from the horror of their experiences. Sad though this alternative seems, it is easier for me to believe that the occupants of UFOs simply do not understand what they are doing to us, what traumas they are inflicting, than to believe they do know and are merely indifferent to human suffering

I have talked with many people who will not give up on the benign Space-Brother reading of these cases, no matter what. At the outset I said that our quasi-religious hopes die slowly. And so, despite massive negative evidence, there are still many people who cling to the idea that somehow, some way, there may be *two* alien groups, one bad and one good. The bad group, according to this theory, does the abducting and experimenting while the good group really loves and understands us. Sometimes a kind of sub-rosa Aryan racism can be detected beneath these hopes, in that the "grays," as they have been called, are the bad aliens, while attractive "blonds" are good.

In my 12 years of investigation, however, the more human-seeming aliens, whenever they are reported (as in the cases of Earl and his wife or the Travis Walton abduction), seem to be operating as a team right along with the so-called grays, participating in abductions-as-usual. I am unaware of a shred of evidence that supports this simple-minded good-guys, bad-guys dichotomy — but there is plenty of evidence that this kind of wishful thinking is an all-too-common psychological habit.

The contactee phenomenon, discounted by almost all serious investigators, represents the triumph of hope against reality, of need against evidence. The abduction cases I've studied over the years can be defined as being, in effect, "all evidence and no ideology," while the contactee cults are essentially the opposite. Contactee messages, as passed on through helpful "channels", reduce themselves generally to soft entreaties to love one another, to make peace, not war, and to take care of our planet's precarious ecology — in other words, the kind of cliché even people like Reagan and Gorbachev routinely utter in their formal speeches. (This kind of nebulous message, it should be said, is sometimes also reported in valid UFO-abduction cases. What we really need, one abductee said to me, is actual alien help in solving our problems, not just another newspaper editorial pointing them out.) In short, there is no reason to assume that any benign group of aliens anywhere has yet done anything truly helpful to our planet. Such evidence simply does not exist.

The final difficulty in the cultist view of a good alien-bad alien duality lies in the age-old problem of evil. If the bad aliens are hurting us by their abduction, why don't the good aliens prevent it? For centuries we've asked ourselves, if God is omnipotent, how can He permit, say, the torture of children? Many of us felt that since no answer consistent with the idea of God's omnipotence could satisfy us, there was something seriously wrong with the theology. And so it is with this kind of alien theology, apart from the fact that no credible evidence of any kind indicates a struggle between rival alien groups. If there are various groups of aliens from different places of origin in the universe, they are apparently all cooperatively doing the same thing to us — and I for one think that what they're doing is, in the short term at least, immensely destructive.

Once again we are back to the only two available alternatives. Either the UFO occupants have not grasped the psychological toll they are taking in these abductions and genetic experiments because they really do not understand human psychology, *or* they must be viewed as an amoral race bent solely upon gratifying its own scientific needs at whatever cost to us, the victims. The question of which alternative is true cannot now be answered. There is evidence to support both interpretations, but I, for one, wish to choose the former.

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ANN DRUFFEL
RESEARCH - WRITING

19 November 1987

"Letters to the Editor"
MUFON UFO Journal
103 Oldtowne Rd.
Seguin, TX 78155

Dear Editor,

Recent letters in this Journal section have contained vague but deeply denigrating remarks against FLYING SAUCER REVIEW. The last letter of this kind (Oct. 1987 issue) was unsigned, but I would judge that was due to the Journal's editorial error. I would suggest that the author of that letter specify his or her specific objections to FSR. Then appreciative and admiring readers of FSR (and there are many) can answer them.

The author(s) of these letters apparently have other objections besides FSR's opinion about the so-called "Cheesehead mystery rings". Incidentally, the explanation by the consulting meteorologist gave my family a hearty laugh (a rare commodity these days!) Even my resident skeptic, who decries anything ufological, remarked that the meteorologist's theory was even crazier than the ufologists'. We are both well acquainted with whirlwinds, dust devils, tornadoes and waterspouts and cannot accept the idea of a "recurring, stationary whirlwind".

Personally, I prefer to speculate that the swirled rings in Cheesehead might be linked somehow to the (admittedly mysterious) ley-line energies. There's no reason in the world why anyone should have to agree with anyone else on anything. Everyone is entitled to his/her own reasonable opinions, and I have yet to find anything unreasonable about FSR's contents or editorial philosophy. With very best regards,

Ann Druffel

Ann Druffel
Pasadena, California, U.S.A.

Dear Gordon, You must be doing <u>something</u> right to merit such vitriolic objections!
Best regards,
Ann Druffel

RECENT ASTRONOMICAL REPORTS FROM RUSSIA

1. SCIENTIST CLAIMS "SIGNS OF LIFE" FROM FOUR DWARF STARS OF OUR GALAXY

(Translation from Spanish newspaper,* La Vanguardia, *Barcelona, of May 1, 1987. Credit and thanks to FSR Consultant J. Plana Crivillén.)

MOSCOW — *EFE Spanish News Agency.* The concentrations of radio waves — as distinct from *"cosmic noise"* — around four dwarf stars located in our Galaxy may be an indication of extraterrestrial life of a high technical level.

Alexei Arjipov, a member of the Ukrainian Institute of Radio-Astronomy affiliated to the USSR Academy of Sciences, asserts that he has located various radio signals floating around in the Cosmos and has interpreted them as the work of some intelligence or other.

> "The radio waves, which range from 100 megahertz to 1,000 megahertz, are", so he says, "very distinct from the background cosmic noise, and it is my theory that we have found an industrial centre of some other civilization that has a high degree of intelligence."

According to advanced studies that have been made, there are about 600 million planets in our Galaxy, the Milky Way, which could possess the conditions necessary to sustain life, and in some 530,000 of them the life could be intelligent and technological.

All these figures derive from the work of a large number of specialists in various countries.

This discovery and location of the four dwarf stars by the Soviet scientist is apparently the first proof which might confirm the theoretical studies made on life outside the Earth.

Some theories, supported by the early work of the American chemist Stanley Miller, assert that the formation of life is a common phenomenon on planets that are similar during their period of formation and have as their components water, ammonia, methane, and hydrogen.

Miller investigated the consequences of mixing these four basic components of planets in formation in a sterile container, applied ultraviolet rays as a substitute for the Sun, and put an electrical charge through it. A week later it resulted in the appearance of complex molecules, including glycine and alanine, the simplest of the aminoacids contained in proteins.

Here in the USSR, the discussion of possible extraterrestrial life is handled with great prudence, inasmuch as in this country all the means of communication belong to the State and, as a consequence, seek to avoid sensationalism.

This report of the discovery of cosmic radio waves by the Soviet astronomer was issued by the official TASS news agency, and although they gave the report without comment, they indicated that the discovery is important, and opens a new path in the investigation of Space, However, the Soviet authorities have not indicated the precise locations of the four dwarf stars which might harbour intelligent life, and this has aroused the curiosity of many specialists in other countries, who have now launched an intensive search for the four stars.

2. "RUSSIANS SCOUR SPACE FOR INTELLIGENT LIFE"

An article under this title in *The Times* newspaper, London, September 8, 1987, quotes Soviet astronomer Nikolai Kardashev, Deputy Director of the Soviet Institute of Space Research, as saying recently that he is optimistic about finding signs of the extraterrestrial civilizations "by the end of the 20th century".

(Older FSR readers will recall that many years ago — maybe nearly twenty — Kardashev issued a fabulous claim that extraterrestrial signals had been picked up by him and had been *"decyphered".* Very soon after that he was obliged to retract the statement. For all we know, he may indeed have actually *"decyphered"* something — the Russian word used was *deshifrirovat',* which is unequivocable — but Western scientists, with the Soviet Government, all poohpooed the story at the time.)

The Soviet News Agency APN goes on to say that Academician Vitaly Ginzburg, a leading Soviet theoretical physicist, shares Kardashev's views. Both say that failure so far has been because our astronomers were uncertain as to which areas of the sky they ought to concentrate their efforts on, and uncertain about the best radio frequencies likely to be used by any notional transmitters that aliens might be operating. Ginzburg assumes that any extraterrestrial civilization would be broadcasting in the 1.7 millimetre waveband, this belief deriving from the work done by U.S. scientists over 20 years ago when they discovered "relic radiation" containing information about the evolution of the Universe after the *"Big Bang",* and they found that the most powerful signals coming in were precisely on the 1.7 mm. wave-length. Furthermore, this particular wave-length would, it seems, be ideal for communication over vast distances owing to the almost total absence of any other transmission.

In a single year recently the Russians allegedly recorded nearly 20,000 new sources of infra-red emissions with one of their tracking satellites. Of these, the brightest emission came from the constellation of Sagittarius, in the Southern Hemisphere. The *Times* article says the Russians concluded that this *"might be coming from an artificial body".*

Meanwhile, at the Special Astrophysical Observatory in the Caucasus Mountains, a group of other Soviet astronomers, under Viktory Shvartsman, are concentrating on a different line of research — namely *optical signals* — by the use of *lasers.*

In a "unique experiment", says the Soviet despatch, this group are scanning the Universe for artificial laser signals, using the six-metre mirror of the BTA-6 optical telescope, which is the world's largest. This telescope, linked to a multichannel Analyzer of Mano-Second Variations in Brightness (known by the "somewhat unfortunate" Russian acronym "MANIA", as *The Times* observes) can detect any change in the brightness of a cosmic source, provided that it lasts one-millionth of a second. The Caucasus Group of

Soviet astronomers is concentrating its attention on stars of the same category as our Sun. (Credit and thanks to Paul Whitehead, FSR Consultant, and several other readers who drew attention to the report in *The Times.* — G.C.)

A Thought

Why — we might wonder — all this constant "search for life in Outer Space" WHEN ALL THE LEADING GOVERNMENTS ON THIS PLANET ALREADY KNOW THAT ALIENS ARE HERE IN HUGE NUMBERS, PROBABLY BOTH "EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL" and "INTERDIMENSIONAL", AND HAVE BEEN HERE FOR A LONG, LONG TIME?

The explanation must surely be that the Governments are all *"over a barrel"*, as the Americans say. While aware of the aliens, the Governments have been suppressing the truth for forty years. For doing this, the Governments are not in any way to be blamed or censured. They are doing the right thing, for much of the truth is proving to be highly *unpleasant.*

So, this is one excellent reason for official silence. BUT, OVER AND BEYOND THAT, IS THERE NOT THE FEELING OF IMPOTENCE AND INFERIORITY IN THE FACE OF ALIENS WHO CAN COME HERE, WHILE WE CAN'T GO THERE!

MY GUESS THEREFORE IS THAT, WHEN THEY HAVE ACCUMULATED A GOOD COLLECTION OF "EXTRATERRESTRIAL SIGNALS", THE GOVERNMENTS WILL THEN FEEL THEY ARE IN A STRONG ENOUGH POSITION TO TELL US:–

"LOOK CHUMS — SEE WHAT WE'VE FOUND! THERE ARE MILLIONS AND MILLIONS OF E.T.s. BUT DON'T WORRY! THEY ARE ALL AWAY OUT THERE — UMPTEEN MILLION LIGHT YEARS FROM US. SO THERE'S NO DANGER THAT THEY WILL EVER GET HERE AND THREATEN US!"

(SUCH AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT, WHEN IT COMES, MAY WELL BE ISSUED ON THE SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS OF THE PARTICULAR ALIENS, WHO HAVE RUN THIS PLACE, AND OWNED US, FROM TIME IMMEMORIAL, BUT WHO DON'T SEE WHY WE SHOULD KNOW THIS. AFTER ALL, IF YOU WERE IN THE ALIENS' SHOES, WOULDN'T YOU DO THE SAME? — G.C.)

THE NEW "FRENCH DISEASE"

Gordon Creighton

It is extremely fashionable nowadays to quote "the French" as being paragons of virtue where ufological study is concerned. Time and again we hear the same old story being repeated, that "the French are doing great things in UFO research", that GEPAN is churning out the stuff, and that therefore God's in His Heaven and all's right with the world.

Well of course it is quite true that, away back in 1974, when the French Minister for Defence gave his famous interview on the television, we ourselves shared this naive belief about France and about GEPAN and (we admit this with sorrow) we were the ones who advertised this glorious news most strongly.

But the years have rolled on since 1974, and anybody who has been reading FSR with any degree of care will have perceived long ago that the GEPAN bubble has been pricked and that GEPAN has been proved to be a total nonsense, a cover-up like all the rest.

Unfortunately however there are important folk in Britain who do not appear to realize this, and are still beating the GEPAN drum. (The Foreword to Timothy Good's *Above Top Secret* is an excellent example!)

As further proof, we now invite attention to the article published below, which we have just received from our Consultant Dr Jean-Pierre Petit, a Senior Scientific Officer with the CNRS (French *National Commission for Scientific Research*). We hope that Dr Petit's statement, written at the end of Juy 1987, will provide the *coup de grâce* that was apparently needed, and will finish off this hoary old myth about GEPAN and the wonderful work it is doing to solve the UFO Problem. The actual truth of the matter is of course that nobody on this planet is more terrified about the UFOs than the French, and that there is not the slightest possibility that anything is going to come out of any Government-sponsored or Government-controlled body in that country. (Or, for that matter, in any other country either.) We do not doubt that a few private and civilian French investigation groups, like the valiant *Lumières Dans La Nuit* team will carry on as usual. They will however, as we say, be few, for Ufology in France is gravely afflicted now with the severe new disease known as *"sociopsychology"*. In recent months we have received much highly interesting information about the bearers of this new species of plague, and it has come to us from several of the best known and most respected of the French leaders in our subject. The general tenor of their conclusions is well summed up in the words of one of their number, who writes:–

"While not *directly* manipulated by the Communists, these 'new French leaders' are a muddled-up sort of mess of marxo-cartesianism plus 'soixante-huitard' leftism, * left-wing Catholicism, and God knows what else ... You might say their general inspiration very much resembles that of the *'New Scientist'* in Britain. 'Sociopsychology' is of course just a fad and, like all fads, it will expire in due course".

* * * * *

(* NOTE. By *'soixante-huitard leftism'* our correspondent indicates the particular brand of left-wing 'woolliness' -cum-marxist-thuggery which animated the so-called "Student's Revolt" of 1968, when a revolutionary attempt to bring down the government of General de Gaulle was defeated on the streets of Paris. — EDITOR)

GEPAN = CONDON

Dr Jean-Pierre Petit

Senior Scientific Officer with the CNRS

(French National Commission For Scientific Research), and Consultant to FSR.

(Translation from French)

JUST a week ago (July 1987), I was in Quebec, attending an international scientific exhibition. And by pure chance I found myself face to face with a man known to me by name. As a matter of fact, I had seen his initials at the foot of an official letter from the CNES (French *Commission For The Exploration of Space,* Toulouse) which Claude Poher had shown me in 1977, confirming the creation of GEPAN. This man was at that time the Secretary-General of the CNES.

We were in the cafeteria of the University of Quebec, and I had no difficulty in getting him to talk about GEPAN. And I am here reporting what he said, for it carries a lot of weight. We had all had our suspicions before that, but now we have from this man's own lips *the proof of the imposture:–*

JPP: Were you one of the people who created GEPAN?

Reply: Yes — I was one of those who created GEPAN. At the CNES we had received requests from various quarters to do this. There were for example the Military, the IHEDN (Institute of Higher Studies on National Defence), and certain politicians, including, if I remember rightly, Debré . . .

JPP: Why had this organization, GEPAN, been set up?

Reply: I make no secret of the fact that the creation of GEPAN was aimed to serve a task that was totally negative. It was merely a question of reducing the UFO problem to a group of natural phenomena, in order to calm and cool down public opinion on the subject . . .

JPP: GEPAN didn't do much in its ten years.

Reply: It seems to me that Esterle did some pretty good work, but of course, indeed, given the objective being pursued . . .

JPP: According to my calculations, GEPAN has cost the taxpayer between 1,000,000,000 and 2,000,000,000 centimes* in the ten years.

Reply: Oh — do you think so? As much as that?

JPP: Well, just count it up. For a while they had three engineers working full-time, two of whom, Esterle and Canbel, were graduates of the big universities, and then there was Zappoli, a DSc (Doctor of Science).

Reply: Ah — you may perhaps be right . . .

JPP: And, besides, GEPAN is still in existence.

Reply: Oh, well — very small . . . You know, that's how you go about it when you want to make a department disappear. You let it die off gradually.

I then talked to him about the critical situation in which I and my research colleague Lebrun now find ourselves; our lack of resources; and the fact that, a month from now, Lebrun will be unemployed. He replied:

JPP: "You researchers — you don't know how to organize. You should regroup; produce some coherent project aiming at a concrete result, and make contact with industrialists, with banks . . ."

(In other words, "finance yourselves, while *we* go on squandering the Nation's funds with impunity".)

* * * * *

This dialogue which I have reproduced above gives us the historical low-down on the whole business, but these lines will provoke no scandal. We are in France. But now we have a far better understanding of why it was that all our attempts to propose serious research projects remained unanswered by GEPAN. *That body had not been created in order to elucidate, but in order to bury.*

One might perhaps wonder to oneself about this sort of behaviour, about this sort of politics. But we mustn't see anything machiavellian or cynical in it. One might even go so far as to consider it all just as a totally natural reaction. As a simple rejection mechanism, *immunological* in its essence, as I have already described it in an earlier article.

It confirms our impression that we shall get nothing from any organization whatsoever. But we had already known this, for more than a year past. (At the most we might perhaps dream of a providential legacy, from some rich and eccentric widow, full of fanciful ideas and enthusiasms about UFOs. Though alas there's scant enough likelihood of *that* happening . . .)

But it is an astounding situation in which to find ourselves — just at the very moment when Lebrun and I have discovered the keys that would enable us to simulate, in a supersonic wind-tunnel, with jets of cold air, almost as it were under flight conditions, the behaviour of a *magnetohydrodynamic aerodyne* manoeuvering without any "supersonic bang"!

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* In other words, between ten million and twenty million French Francs. — ED.

NEW DISCOVERY BY CANADIAN ASTRONOMERS

ACCORDING to a report in *The Observer,* London, of July 5, 1987, recent work by Canadian astronomers indicates that half of certain near-by stars which they have been studying may in fact possess planets, and news of this was announced at a recent meeting of the American Astronomical Society. Commenting upon the report, Professor Archibald Roy of Glasgow University said: *"These observations suggest that half our Galaxy's 100,000 million stars have planets — and that means we must have a good chance of finding life*

'out there'. If we haven't found extraterrestrial life by the end of this century, then we will have to conclude that human life is an improbable accident. On the other hand, we may find that life is widespread throughout the Universe — and that will have profound religious and philosophical implications".

This new work in Canada has been carried out by Dr Bruce Campbell of the Dominion Astronomical Observatory, Victoria, B.C., and Dr Gordon Walker and Dr Stephenson Yang, both of the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C., utilizing an entirely new astronomical measuring technique known as high-resolution spectroscopy.

By means of this method, they were able to measure very accurately the variations in the light from stars, and the slight differences noted by them indicate, so they report, that many of the stars *"were being pushed or pulled out of their paths by unseen planets".*

Full details of their findings, as given in the latest issue of *Science,* indicate that, out of some sixteen near-by stars, two, namely *Epsilon Eridani* and *Gamma Cephei,* were definitely being affected by large bodies in orbit around them. And of the remaining 14 stars, at least five or six more seemed also to have "unseen companions".

The astronomers calculate that these new planets — and *planets* they definitely are — are far, far more massive than our Earth — maybe several hundred times as big!

As Professor Archie Roy emphasises, if there are 100,000 million stars in the Galaxy, of which about one-fifth are stable and cool like our Sun, and if about half of the stars also have planets, *"that leaves us with 10,000 million stars fulfilling the most important criteria for supporting life. It's very encouraging!"*

Before long, two important Space projects, the *Space Telescope* and the European satellite *Hipparchus,* are to be launched, and both of these new tools will greatly enhance the astronomers' present capacity to detect minute variations in the motions of stars due to the presence of orbiting planets.

Parallel with all this, the current programme of SETI *(The Search For Extraterrestrial Intelligence)* will also be proceeding, and will be concentrating on the study of radio-waves from those stars thought to possess life-bearing planets.

By the close of this century many scientists are therefore confident that we shall have the answer to the big question: *ARE WE ALONE?*

MAIL BAG

Correspondents are asked to keep their letters short and give full name and address (not necessarily for publication). It is not always possible for the Editor to acknowledge every letter personally, and so he takes this opportunity to thank all who write to him.

In Search of the "Goodies" (1)

Dear Gordon Creighton, — In answer to your Editorial appeal to hear from people who have, within the past decade or two, had Close Encounters of the "nice", open, and *plainly friendly* kind so prevalent during the '50s — most often with craft occupants who appeared to be close to us genetically...

Occasionally I learn of a case of this type occurring here lately. I have two in mind, both involving scientists, but from different continents. (They met each other recently ... to their mutual gain.)

On the whole, though, the pattern has changed — for twenty-odd years now — to typically *stranger*-appearing aliens, of a wide variety of types, employing abduction and/or memory-block for part or most of the Encounter. None of these three aspects is, in itself, cause for alarm. But some of the techniques used by certain types of aliens strike me, and many other researchers, as fundamentally unethical. You're already very familar with them, but they belong outside the frame of this letter, which is to reply to your query regarding *"friendly"* Encounters.

While at the Rocky Mountains UFO Investigators' Conference in July 1987 I met and spoke with many "Encountered" people, and all of them claimed that, after the initial trauma of Encounter and suddenly shifting Perspective had become more acceptable and "liveable", they found their lives *tremendously enriched.* One such woman, whom I met on the Registration Day, but seldom saw there for more than a friendly wave of hand, in the end offered me a ride with her back to Denver, to save me having to board a bus in the wee small hours.

It was an unforgettable ride. Our lovely sunny weather had disappeared, and it poured rain all the miles to Denver. But we listened to beautiful music from her tape-deck and talked about the Conference, and the kindly and uncritical persons met there. (Neither of us had ever met any of them before.) Dr Leo Sprinkle had invited me by letter, after having read my letter which you had published in FSR. (About the long-term effects of encounter, see FSR 31/6.) She, on the other hand, had been carrying her memories, and her misgivings, alone for several years, and had heard about the Conference through her boss at work, and she had telephoned to Leo Sprinkle about her plight.

Well now — she was like a different person now from the young woman I'd met and lunched with on the first day of the Conference. And, she said, *"No Wonder!"* Three days of communicating with "open" and "sharing" people, plus insights gained from some of the speakers, had turned

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PLEASE NOTE ALSO THAT *FSR ARE NOT BOOKSELLERS.* ATTEMPTS TO ORDER BOOKS THROUGH US CANNOT BE MET. ORDERS SHOULD GO *THROUGH A BOOKSELLER.* HERE IN BRITAIN, WE RECOMMEND MISS S.R. STEBBING, 41 TERMINUS DRIVE, BELTINGE, HERNE BAY, KENT CT6 6PR, OR WATKINS BOOKSHOP, 21 CECIL COURT, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON WC2 (TEL. 836-2182). IN THE U.S.A WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND AS OUTSTANDING THE ARCTURUS BOOK SERVICE, P.O. BOX 831383, STONE MOUNTAIN, GA 30083-0023.

her whole life around into a new direction. When she left me off at my friend's house, where we all had lunch together, she had already determined to 'go for' the career she had longed for years earlier, but felt afraid to try She had gained courage, a broader perspective, and Specific Purpose. All constructive. (I hope that you will hear from her one day.)

Of the other people who were at the Conference, all were either investigators or "contacted folk", or both. Of those who were both, some had become researchers or investigators following their Encounters, and some already were before the Contact occurred. Almost all were surprised by at least the first Encounter ... (most Encounters were multiple).

Some of the abducted persons apparently did not *"lose time"*, and some of those who did *"lose time"*, felt that they had been *"informed"* rather than *"abducted"*.

Yours sincerely,
Rosemary Decker,
340 Calle de la Paloma,
Fallbrook, California 92028,
U.S.A.
October 4, 1987.

In Search of the "Goodies" (2)

Dear Mr Creighton, — I'm writing to you in response to a letter that I received from Rosemary Decker. Apparently you had asked if there were any friendly contacts any more between ETs and us folk. Yes, there most certainly are friendly contacts but would they really sell? And then some of us just prefer not to advertise, for that reason I ask that our names not be used. My husband and I have had contacts of one sort or another since we were small children. We were raised in different parts of the country and didn't meet until after we were both in university. Marven is a pharmacist-optician and while I took the required sciences my major was psychology and later specializing in family counselling. We are not in need of publicity regarding our UFO contacts. So now, let me tell you a little of what we found out after we married and in the years since.

Marven is seven years older than I, but our experiences happened about the same ages so this means the childhood experiences we shared happened seven years earlier for him. At about the ages of 4-5 years we both saw a funny looking person staring in a window at us and had the impression that the person was smiling at us. In both cases when we told our parents we were told that we were making up stories and not to let our imaginations run wild. Within a few weeks after that we were suddenly enveloped in the most brilliant light you can imagine. There was no way that this light could have come from anything around us. When it happened to my husband his family lived on a wheat ranch on the tablelands of Nebraska. There were no other houses around and they used kerosene lamps. This was in the twenties. My "bright light event" was in the thirties; we were living in the mountains of western Oregon. It was very remote; there wasn't even a road to our place, just a footpath. We also used kerosene lamps. The light was so bright that it woke me up and I was blinded by it, then the best way to describe it is that it felt like what sitting in a diamond must be like. There were brilliant rainbows of color all around me and a voice telling me not to be afraid. I've never been afraid of the Sky People since then.

After our marriage we found that we both had the same somewhat rare blood type and several other anomalies. We have continued to have contact thru the years but I'm not going to bore you with an account of them all, you're primarily interested in recent times, as I understand it.

On March 5, 1982, we were returning home from a birthday party for our youngest daughter-in-law. Since they live on our ranch it was just a few hundred feet between houses. As we stood on the porch of our son's home we noticed that the sky was unusually bright and with a distinct orange-red glow. Since the perimeter of the property is surrounded by tall trees it is impossible to see the horizon. We wondered aloud if it could be the Northern Lights, (the next day's papers carried the story that there had been many calls to the weather bureau, A.F.B., police station, etc., about the lights), but they weren't the right color for Northern Lights and seemed to be moving. In the morning one of our other sons who had also been at the party called to ask if we had seen the U.F.O. He was approximately 15 miles further North, and on top of one of the foot-hills, when he said a large ship dipped down out of the clouds and then appeared to right itself and returned to cloud cover. Michael is a Master Optician, has had experience designing rockets for rocketry clubs and has also formulated a number of solid propellants for the rockets. His interest began when he was about six years old and he started drawing spaceships that were quite sophisticated. One of his uncles has been part of the aero-space program for many years and they would sit and discuss the pros and cons of the different designs and uses. By the age of nine Michael and his uncle were into dimensional and time travel. So you can see he wouldn't easily mistake a weather balloon or some such thing for a craft. Michael's wife Royce is an R.N. (Registered Nurse), and was on night duty. When she returned home in the morning she recounted an odd incident that had happened about 10:00 p.m. The hospital had received an emergency alert call. They were to prepare for an unspecified number of casualties from a mid-air collision and explosion. The correct code was given, and the hospital went on alert. At 11:30 p.m. Royce, who was in charge of ICU inquired as to when the ambulances were expected, no one knew. She left to check, found the call logged in properly, and nothing more. She then called the emergency service that had called the hospital; they denied any calls having been made and said the call must be a prank. The identity code is changed frequently and is known only to authorized individuals. The call had come in about 15 minutes after my husband, younger son and his wife, and I had seen the moving orange-red glow, and about half an hour after Michael had seen the craft 'dip' out of the clouds. About a week later, when Royce was at a nursing seminar, one of the R.Ns from McChord A.F.B. told about the hospital being put on alert for mid-air casualties that never arrived — on March 5, 1982.

On July 3, 1982 we had decided to return to the camping-ground near the St. Helens volcano, where we had been trapped for three days when that volcano erupted.

Michael and his three children joined us. And Royce had pulled holiday duty.

That night I drifted off to sleep only to awaken thinking that I had heard something; this was foolish, since we were in our 32′ motorhome so there couldn't be any animals or bugs wandering around. Besides, they'd get Michael and the kids first, since we were in the back of the motorhome. I looked out the window, or tried to, and discovered that my head didn't want to turn, but that was OK, because I could see the stars with my peripheral vision. I was drowsy, warm, and very comfortable. Thru half opened eyes I saw a tiny bright spot over my head. Continuing to gaze at the spot, I realized it seemed to be getting larger. While I was still warm and comfortable there seemed to be a coolness around me and the smell of the fir and pine trees was quite strong. With my side vision I saw that the trees looked as tho' they were moving downward past me and the bright spot was taking the shape of a giant wheel. If this sounds like Whitley Strieber's account, imagine my surprise when I read his book and read how terrified he was. I found it quite pleasant. As I came closer to the object my last thought was: "No wonder Elijah called them wheels within wheels", and that was the last I remembered. I awoke just before dawn, and then fell back to sleep again. During that sleep period I had one of my precognitive dreams which came true about a year later. 1982, 83, 84 and 85 all produced a lot of activity and contacts, none of them frightening. We were in Cheyenne, Wyoming, during this time. Marven was at Warren Air Force Base and I was doing historical research at the Wyoming Museum of History. There were two cattle mutilations at that time, one in Colorado and one between Cheyenne and Lara-

mie, but these were the only two happenings that I would classify as horrible or frightening.

I did discover, in talking with Dr. Richard Haines of NASA, that my description of the interior of one of the ships that I had been in many years ago fell in line with what information he had gathered over the years. He was particularly interested in my account of the windows, since he is designing the windows of the U.S.A.'s space-station. What I described was what he felt was the way they would have to be. The main difference between the craft that I was on, and what we hope to have, was that on my craft there was artificial gravity. I assume that's what it was, since everyone walked around quite normally. I never left the chair that I was seated in, by the 'window', since they wanted me to observe the terrain we were passing over and to remember it. By the way, "They" were very normal or humanoid in appearance, perhaps a little too perfect.

All in all, I find nothing very much to be frightened of but isn't that quite boring? Neither of us feels that we are working with, for, or against "E.T.s"; merely observing. What we have found is that the contacts continue thru the generations. In my husband's family we have knowledge of five generations having contacts of one type or another. In mine, four generations. We now have five generations living on the home ranch. We do not hold big discussions about U.F.O.s nor do we try to influence any of the younger ones. Sooner or later we're asked by them who the people are that come to visit "real late". The older folks must be handled quite carefully since they've kept the experiences they've had secret for years. It takes careful listening to stories about the old days,and the remarks concerning the "funny" or "odd" things that happened. One such was in the early Thirties in Nebraska. Everything that needed any form of electricity stopped running. This covered an area of over twenty square miles. My father-in-law's explanation was that they all figured the Government was working on one of Edison's fool ideas. I hope you receive a considerable response; the friendly encounters still take place. They just aren't attention-grabbers.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs. — —
(Name and address on file at FSR),
State of Washington,
U.S.A.
November 4, 1987.

Comment by Editor

I have given a great deal of our precious space to these two letters, because they are the only replies I have received to my appeal for evidence about the existence and presence here of the "Goodies". I sincerely wish that I could say I found either of the letters *convincing,* as surely nobody has a greater "wish to believe in the Goodies" than I. But I do *not* find them convincing! Rosemary Decker's letter does not of course claim to provide any details. It only discusses generalities, but does express the firm convictions held by this respected reader, whom we know and greatly esteem personally. The other letter, which is from one of Mrs Decker's friends, does not lack details or evidence — indeed it has a great deal! For example, it tells us that she and her husband (both contactees from childhood) *"both had the same somewhat rare blood type and several other anomalies".* She also mentions that in her husband's family *five generations,* and in her own family *four generations,* have all been "contacted". All of which, I admit, fits in admirably with Budd Hopkins' remarkable findings about the general sexual tinkering and monkey-business that are now going on. But I see in it no pointer whatsoever to anything *benevolent* to mankind. And that these contactees seem to be so "confident", so "complacent" about the whole situation, only indicates to me that they are well and truly conditioned and brainwashed. And Budd Hopkins has given us plenty of evidence of *that* too! — EDITOR

Violent disappearance of a car in Germany

Dear Editor, — You may be interested to publish the following details regarding the sudden disappearance of a car on a German autobahn last year. The eyewitnesses are the "in-laws" of a colleague of mine:–

Date: October 14, 1987.
Time: 10.00 a.m.
Place: Autobahn E-4/G-S, Baden-Baden to Frankfurt.
Weather conditions: clear sunny sky.
Position of vanishing car: Second car ahead of eyewitnesses' car.
Speed: 120 kms/p.h.
Noise: No noise was heard (windows of eyewitnesses' car were closed, and radio was playing).
Type of vanishing car: Dark sedan, small size. No details of passengers noticed.
Explosion: Flames, thin grey smoke, followed by white smoke, and then immediate disappearance.
Reaction of driver of car just ahead of eyewitnesses' car: The car just ahead braked; then continued on as if nothing had happened.
Traces: Absolutely no traces, no fragments.

Yours sincerely,
Claude Devismes,
156 Champneuf Drive,
Orleans,
Ontario,
Canada, K1C 6B4.
February 4, 1988.

P.S. A similar incident happened in Ottawa about ten years ago. The eyewitness was a friend of a work acquaintance of mine. — C.D.

Comment by Editor

In my first article for FSR on *Teleportations,* pp.14-16 in FSR 11/2 (March-April 1965, I reported the following case, furnished by Mr Jun-Ichi Takanashi of the Modern Space-Flight Association, Osaka, Japan, and taken from the Tokyo evening newspaper *Mainichi* of March 4, 1964:–

"Shortly after 9.00 a.m. on November 19, 1963, a Mr Kinoshita, acting manager of the Kashika branch of the Fuji Bank, Tokyo, Japan, was driving along the Fujishiro bypass. He had just gone through the towns of Matsudo and Kashiwa, on the Mito road, and was headed for a golf-course at Ryugazaki, Ibaraki-ken. (This region lies a little north of Tokyo.) In the car with him were two passengers. These were a Mr Saito, vice-director of the bank's Kashika branch, and another man who was a client of the bank.

"Ever since passing through a place called Kanamachi, they had had in view another car, which was about 150 yards ahead of them and travelling in the same direction. It was a black car, of the type known as the Toyopet New Crown, and it had a Tokyo registration number (which, of course, most unfortunately none of them memorized). In the left-hand rear seat of this black car was an elderly man, who was reading a newspaper. We are given no information about the driver or any other occupants.

"Suddenly, 'a puff of something gaseous, like white smoke or vapour, gushed out from somewhere around the black car', and when this cloud dispersed (a matter of not more than five seconds) the black car had vanished.

"Not having memorized the registration number of the black car, Mr Kinoshita and his companions felt that there was no way of tracing it, nor of finding out who had been in the car and what had become of them.

"This affair was reported in the evening edition of the *Mainichi* (one of Japan's two leading papers) of March 4, 1964. The newspaper stated that hallucination had been suggested as an explanation, but that all three witnesses vehemently denied that there could have been any question of hallucination." — G.C.

(1) Time Dilatation and (2) Refuelling of Aircraft

Dear Sirs, — In FSR 32/5, in Gordon Creighton's *"Through the Looking-Glass",* he mentioned Einstein's theory that an astronaut travelling suf-

ficiently fast through Space would find himself, on returning to Earth, younger than his children.

If a space-ship is steadily propelled at IG (IG = 981 M/SEC^2) and brakes half way along the course with minus I.G., the following time-dilatations take place, as shown in tables in MYER'S HANDBOOK OF SPACE:–

Years of Rocket Crew	Years of Earth's Inhabitants
1	1
2	2.1
5	6.5
10	24
15	270
25	910
30	3100
35	10 600
40	36 000
45	124 000
50	420 000

I thought this might be of interest.

Secondly, you referred in the STOP PRESS (back page) of FSR 33/1 to the problem of *aircraft refuelling*. As I have been retired quite a long time, I asked my sister-in-law Molly Allott, a retired Air Commodore herself but who lives in Milford and goes up to London every week, to try to find out some details, as she is still in close touch with Senior Officers in the Service. I did not tell her the reason for my enquiry. Her replies are as follows:–

1) The height for refuelling is 10,000–30,000 ft. depending on clear air and thunderstorms.
2) Refuelling normally takes place over the sea, but can be laid on over the land at night. Conditions depend on speed of flight of the receiving aircraft.
3) *Tristar* aircraft are used, as they can carry greater weight of fuel than civilian aircraft.

Yours sincerely,

Wing-Commander A.C. Harper, MA, RAF (Ret'd),
2 Holly Gardens,
Milford-on-Sea,
Lymington,
Hampshire SO41 0SB.
January 12 and March 20, 1988.

Comment by Editor

Very many thanks, Wing-Commander! This is highly interesting, because, when something "as big as a football-pitch" bearing lights and emitting a low hum, was seen by many people, as it flew, very low and very slowly, over the city of Nottingham on the evening of December 9, 1987, we were informed that "experts" had dismissed it as *"aircraft refuelling"*. (Not however, it seems, the opinion of the Chief of Police of Nottingham who, in his letter of January 5, 1988 to me, in reply to my enquiry, said:–

> "I enclose cuttings from the local evening newspaper which may be of some interest to you. You will see that although enquiries were made with the appropriate authorities no explanation could be given for the lights.") — EDITOR

John Keel's Report on the Arnold Sighting: (1) Also the "Cornfield rings"

Dear Sir, — In FSR 32, No. 5, John Keel remarks that Kenneth Arnold could not have seen the objects he thought he saw because they were travelling 1,200 miles per hour or faster, whereas things moving faster than about 700 mph are invisible. I hope he will rethink this, since it is not speed per se which can render a moving object invisible, but angular velocity. Both a speeding bullet passing nearby and an airplane's propellor in flight are invisible because they pass by too fast for the eye to follow or even notice. The angular velocities involved are great — 90° of arc or more in less than 1/50 second.

However, it took some 102 seconds for Arnold's objects to cover a comparable angle, giving an angular velocity some 5,000 times smaller. Hence, they should have been visible if they were large enough or bright enough, and if general visibility permitted. Note that the Moon travels much faster than a bullet while orbiting the Earth, yet is visible because its angular velocity is small, due to its considerable distance.

It was informative for me to learn that Arnold's attention was directed to the objects by a bright flash in the sky. Thus I would agree with Keel that in this case, as in so many others, the particular witness 'was somehow meant to see these things'.

Regarding the 'mystery' rings commented upon in correspondence in the same issue of FSR, let me side with Hans-Werner Peiniger that they could not have been caused by whirlwinds. For one thing, neither whirlwind, dust devil or tornado ... has a precise radius of abrupt cut-off of strong wind. If it almost did, this would generate extra strong shear turbulence right at that radius which would cause much irregularity in the winds there, thus negating the initial supposition.

Sincerely yours,

James W. Deardorff,
(Professor Emeritus,
Faculty of Science,
Oregon State University),
1689 S.W. Knollbrook Pl., Corvallis,
Oregon 97333,
U.S.A.
December 15, 1987.

John Keel's Report on the Arnold Sighting: (2)

Dear Sir, — John Keel is very probably correct in his assertion (FSR 32/5) that Kenneth Arnold was meant to see that historic flight of UFOs over Mt. Rainier on the 24th of June 1947. In fact, it is probable that almost every UFO sighting is a staged event, if only because the UFO occupants possess a god-like ability to control their interactions with human beings. However, his statement that "anything going faster than 700 mph is invisible to the naked eye" is quite wrong. The determining factor is the angular velocity with which the objects were moving in relation to their observer. For example, it is the same relatively modest angular velocity that enables ground-dwelling humans to watch artificial satellites as they travel at approximately 18,000 mph in their orbits around the Earth at distances far greater than that between Arnold and his UFOs.

Also, Mr. Keel has written in *UFOs: 1947–1987* that radioactive waste was flown from the nuclear reactors at Hanford, Washington and dumped into the Pacific Ocean from the transporting aircraft. He states emphatically that it was an accidental dumping of this waste into Puget Sound that triggered the famous Maury Island sighting. If this is true, where is the supporting documentation? After six letters and fourteen telephone calls to Hanford, The U.S. Department of Energy, and several now-retired scientists and engineers who were at Hanford at the time, I have only received denials that any waste material at all was dumped into the ocean. In fact, the ability of the soil at Hanford to contain radioactive waste was a major factor in its selection as a nuclear reactor site.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Eric Herr,
6250 Stanley Avenue,
San Diego, CA 92115,
U.S.A.
December 12, 1987.

Comment by Editor

It has always amused me to listen quietly to the real experts — and I have done so for over 32 years now — as they mused on various aspects of "our subject". Like the time when Dr Hynek and four top UFO experts, who all knew a lot about photography, were discussing the pictures of the famous Adamskian "scout-ship" (something which folk all over the world have claimed ever since to have seen, and, in not a few cases, even photographed themselves). At the meeting in question, all were agreed that it was a *fake*. But one said it was the lamp used over the operating table in hospitals; another said it was a tobacco-curer; to the third, it was assuredly a chicken-incubator; and the fourth said it was some sort of beer-cooler. Personally I think there is quite a good chance that it was what we (and, remember, the American Air Force, and CIA and FBI too!) all *used* to call a *"flying saucer"*.

Similarly, on the subject of the famous Maury Island Case. John Keel says flatly that it was a faked story. But I notice that a recognized expert, Dr Jacques Vallée, accepts it (see FSR 32/6, page 24). Personally, I think there's a more than 50% chance that Maury Island was quite genuine. But, anyway, I'm not going to start screeching and writing vituperative letters about folk who don't happen to share my particular opinions. — EDITOR

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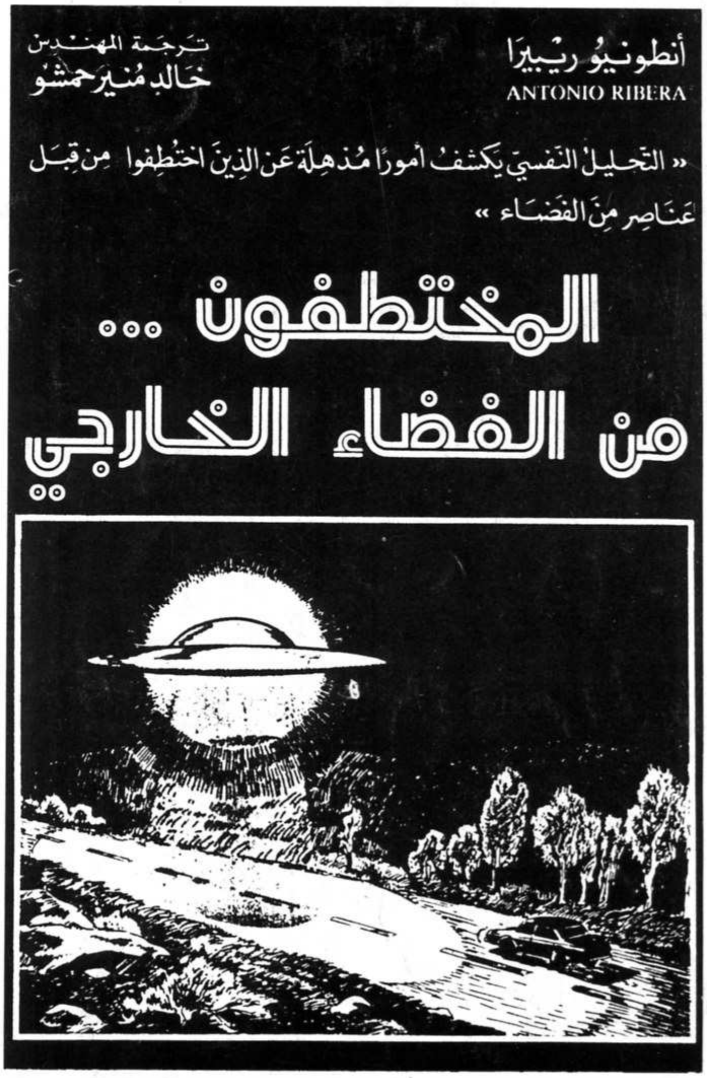

FOR OUR MIDDLE EASTERN READERS!
AL-MUKHTATIFUN MIN AL-FADA' AL-KHARIJI (KIDNAPPED INTO OUTER SPACE) (1987). The first Arabic book on UFO abductions! One FSR Consultant translated by another! Antonio Ribera's Spanish classic, "SECUESTRADOS POR EXTRATERRESTRES" (Planeta, Barcelona, 1981) in an Arabic version by Engineer Khaled Hamsho, Damascus, FSR's Consultant in the Middle East.

STOP PRESS: BUNGLED COVER-UP

An interesting series of events occurred to the south and north-west of London on the evening of Friday, 4 March, 1988. A week later, a Surrey newspaper devoted half of its front page, under banner headlines, to revealing that, on the evening of the 4th, a huge object estimated to be between 100 ft. and 200 ft. wide had been stationary for four hours, at only about 2,000 ft. or so altitude, over the area of Reigate, and had then moved away slowly north-westwards, towards Watford in Hertfordshire. And the newspaper went on to reveal that the authorities of Gatwick Airport admitted they *"had seen something strange on their screen for which they could not account"*, and that, in London, Scotland Yard had been inundated with telephone calls.

What is particularly interesting and piquant is that, by mere chance, the Hertfordshire Police "caught something" on one of their traffic-control videos that evening. The local press reported that the Police are refusing to let the film be seen. *However, the Editor of FSR has seen the film, and can confirm that it is decidedly "interesting"*. Near Watford, a woman saw a sixty-foot-long, rectangular craft with red lights, and humming, flying along at less than rooftop (bungalow) height, at 9.40 p.m. on that same evening, and the Editor of FSR has also interviewed her. (On following days the principal Watford newspaper made a vigorous effort to persuade its readers that all these curious tales were simply due to the spectacular conjunction of Venus and Jupiter.)

Published by FSR Publications Ltd., P.O. Box 12, Snodland, Kent ME6 5JZ, England, and printed in Great Britain by OPTICHROME Ltd., Maybury Road, Woking, Surrey, England.